

Friday
NOVEMBER 13, 2009

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ **FREE** ★
GETTY IMAGES

FASHION PROFILING

**Bars say dress codes keep things classy—
but some patrons say the bans go too far**

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ends with plea deal 3**

**Big Star: A dive bar
that truly shines 21**

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another game 14**



2do



To work

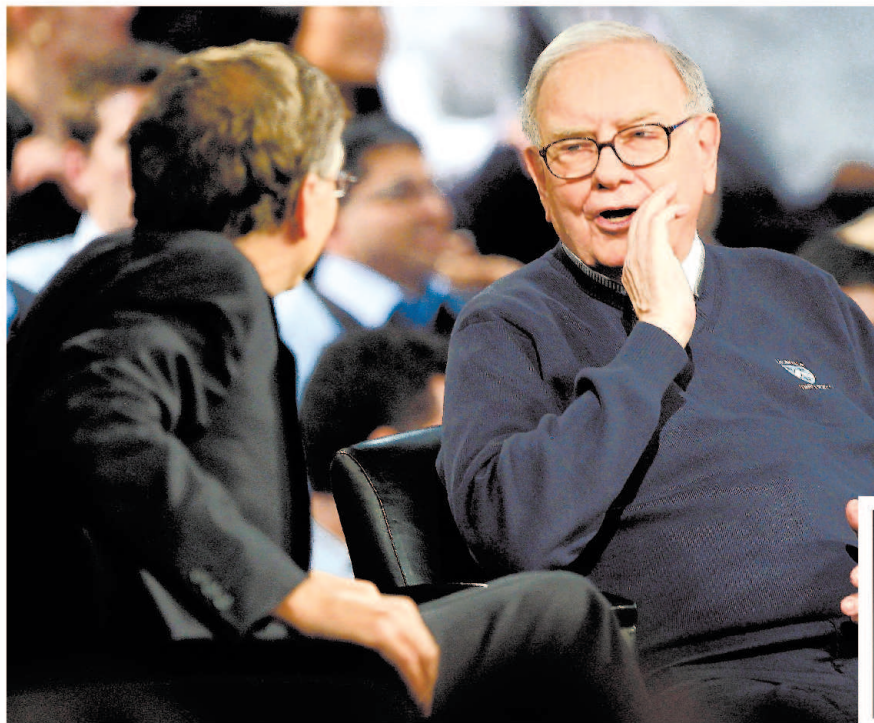
Make some extra money taking the 2010 Census with a part-time, temporary job with the U.S. Census Bureau. Get more information on how to apply at census.gov/2010census.

To gobble

Sign up to receive Thanksgiving turkey cooking tips from Butterball via text message by texting "TURKEY" to **36888**. Find more tips at facebook.com/butterball and twitter.com/butterball.

To see

Watch balloon handlers learn how to maneuver an inflatable Bob the Builder as they prepare for the Thanksgiving Parade at 9:30 a.m. Saturday on the front lawn of the Museum of Science and Industry (5700 S. Lake Shore Drive).

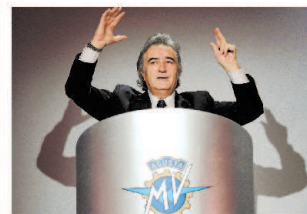


AYE, AYE CAPTION

Text us a funny caption for the photo at left and we'll print the best in RedEye. Text the word "**caption**" followed by your brief caption and your name to **87708**. Good luck!

TUESDAY'S WINNING CAPTION

"Wait, I'm not Bush. Put the shoe down."
LISA AVILES



61 44

TODAY'S FORECAST

Now this is how to do November ...



SAT.
57
43
Ugh, clouds



SUN.
52
39
Clouds clearing



MON.
52
40
Some sun



TUE.
50
38
Maybe rain



WHO YOU VIBIN'?

Hey readers, looking for a date? Girl or guy, straight or gay, RedEye wants to hook you up. Every Wednesday, we feature three singles on our blog and one in the paper. For full details on how to submit your own profile, visit redye.chicago.com/vibin.

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Balloon boy ride over

Parents will plead guilty to avoid mom's deportation

Los Angeles Times

The Colorado parents who claimed their 6-year-old son floated away in a balloon last month will plead guilty to avoid the possible deportation of the mother, a Japanese citizen, a defense attorney said Thursday.

Richard Heene will plead guilty to one felony charge of attempting to influence a public official and his wife, Mayumi, will plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge of making a false report to law enforcement, Richard Heene's attorney, David Lane, said in a statement.

Lane said the pleas were part of a deal with prosecutors and the Heenes would be sentenced to probation, although the prosecutor in the case said a final decision about potential jail time has not been reached. The Heenes are expected to appear in court Friday.

While authorities have yet to file formal charges against the pair, they described charges in a news conference last month that carried a maximum penalty of six years in prison.

Because the Heenes have no criminal record in Colorado, they acknowledged it was unlikely they would serve jail time.

The Heenes are amateur storm chasers who have appeared on the ABC show "Wife Swap" and allegedly staged the hoax to try to garner their own reality TV show.

They told authorities their youngest son, Falcon, had sneaked into a helium balloon that lifted off from their backyard. The balloon's journey was watched by millions on live TV for more than two hours until it landed, empty, in a field.

Falcon was later found hiding in the Heenes' garage.

According to court papers, Mayumi Heene admitted to Larimer County sheriff's deputies several days later the entire escapade was a publicity stunt.



Mayumi Heene (left) with Falcon (center) and Ryo. GETTY IMAGES



Richard Heene

ATTORNEY'S STATEMENT

Richard Heene's attorney, David Lane, issued a statement Thursday. "Mayumi could have possibly ended up being deported and Richard could have proceeded to trial and had a good chance at an acquittal.

"This, however, would have put the family at grave risk of seeing a loving, caring, compassionate wife

and mother ripped from the family and deported. That was not an acceptable risk, thus these pleas.

"It is supremely ironic that law enforcement has expressed such grave concern to the welfare of the children, but it was ultimately the threat of taking the children's mother from the family and deporting her to Japan which fueled this deal."

CDC: Swine flu has killed almost 4,000 in U.S.

Bloomberg News

Swine flu has infected 22 million people in the U.S. and killed 3,900 in the first six months of the pandemic, according to revised estimates of the influenza from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The death toll is about a fourfold increase from previous tallies and the first specific estimate of total swine flu infections.

U.S. health authorities are seeking a more accurate model to analyze the effects of the pandemic flu, also known as H1N1, Anne Schuchat,

director of the Atlanta-based CDC's Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, said Thursday.

The disease puts young people, pregnant women and those with health conditions such as asthma and diabetes at greatest risk, with about 90 percent of the deaths of people younger than 64. Supply of the vaccine to prevent the disease has fallen far short of health authorities' estimates.

The previous reporting system was "potentially giving an incomplete story of the pan-

demic," Schuchat said in a conference call with reporters.

Swine flu has killed an estimated 540 children younger than 18, the CDC said. The agency said Nov. 6 that the death toll for children was 129.

An estimated 98,000 people have been hospitalized so far, about half the number for a typical seasonal flu. However, the current rate of H1N1 infection, responsible for almost 8 percent of all doctors' visits in the U.S., is the highest it has been at this time of year in 40 years of reporting, Schuchat said.

'Ironman' dragged a bus with his hair

Stripping down to bikinis, cuddling strangers in railway stations and dragging buses with their hair, thousands of people across the globe attempted to break curious world records Thursday. After all, it was the fifth annual Guinness World Records Day. They're all impressive, but here are RedEye's favorites. **AFP**



BRITAIN

"Ironman" Manjit Singh set a record by dragging an 8.5-ton bus 69 feet, six inches—with his hair



AUSTRALIA

Outside the Sydney Opera House, 235 people stripped down to their bikinis and bathing suits, but were 47 people short of setting a new swimwear parade record.

DENMARK

Jim Lyngvild peeled and ate three lemons in 28.5 seconds.

ITALY

In Milan, Ernesto Cesario wolfed down a bowl of pasta in 90 seconds.

GERMANY

In Hamburg, Joe Alexander broke a stack of 11 concrete blocks with his elbow while holding a raw egg—yes, a raw egg.

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Hey, celebs: Stick to your day jobs

If there's any shame left in Lindsay Lohan, she should be red-cheeked right now.

This week, Emanuel Ungaro weighed in on Lohan's gig as a fashion consultant for the line he founded, according to popeater.com. An apparently upset Ungaro joined a chorus of other style gurus who called her Paris Fashion Week debut a "disaster."

"I am furious but I can't do anything about it," Ungaro, who no longer has any affiliation with that house of fashion, reportedly said, adding the line is in danger of "losing its soul."

Apparently, Lohan of the messy relationships, substance abuse issues, daddy problems and CAPS LOCK blogging, believes a top fashion line consists of glittery heart-shaped nipple pasties; nearly butt-baring skirts; and what the pop-eating peeps described as "shamelessly low necklines."

Raise your hand if you're surprised. Is there really any wonder the wayward, topless Twit pic-taking LiLo isn't exactly poised to crush Christian Siriano? The wonder is that anyone thought she could.

LiLo isn't the only celeb who should stop with the side gigs.

Consider these one-track wonders:

Steven Seagal

When I recently saw the promo for "Steven Seagal Lawman" at the movies, I mistook it for a spoof ad meant to deter audience members from using their phones during the film. Stunned into silence by footage of a squinty-eyed Seagal in a bulletproof vest, I waited for the line: "It takes one call to reach the police and just one to ruin a movie." No such luck. In December, A&E will actually air a reality series that shows Seagal—a longtime Louisiana deputy—teaching martial arts to his cop colleagues and smack talking suspects in what can only charitably be described as unintelligible English. Is it fair to interrogate suspects who didn't understand the mumbled Miranda rights?

Curtis '50 Cent' Jackson

He may be one of the biggest bullies to hit hip-hop culture, but you've got to respect 50's business acumen. What I can't respect is his acting skills, or lack thereof. Despite several box office opportunities, including "Righteous Kill," "Home of the Brave," and even a film based on his own life, "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," the man has shown no ability to emote. When he, ahem, acts, it's with the same sing songy, dead-eyed delivery that makes him a mix-tape murderer. Much success to him on diverse investments from Vitamin Water to cologne, but I'm done listening to his demo when it comes to character acting.

CORRECTION

The photo contest on Page 2 on Thursday gave the incorrect name of the winning photographer. The winning photographer was Catticut Palich, 33, of Ravenswood.



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DRESS CODE DISCRIMINATION?

‘Proper attire’ at Chicago bars can be tricky—for patrons and owners

By Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz
REDEYE

For Art Bryan, co-owner of Redhead Piano Bar, the golden rule of dress codes is simple: consistency.

On its Web site, in its ads and on its bright rotating sign, the Gold Coast bar warns patrons that “proper attire” is required, meaning no “tennis shoes, gym shoes, walking shoes, athletic hiking boots, beach sandals, flip-flops, open-toed sandals on men, T-shirts, jerseys or sweatshirts,” or ripped or torn jeans, according to its Web site.

Some nights, 25 percent of the people who try to get into Redhead are not properly dressed, Bryan said, and if they decline to borrow from the 40 pairs of shoes and 20 jackets the bar has on hand for such circumstances, they are denied entry. There are no exceptions, Bryan said—not for the socialite in the \$300 pair of carefully frayed premium jeans nor for the Bears player in the fashionable sneakers.

“We’ve never done anything to offend anyone because we’re consistent,” Bryan said.

The art of the dress code can be tricky—both for bar owners trying to maintain ambience and safety, as well as for bar-goers surprised to discover their casual duds don’t fly where they expect them to.

As private businesses, bars can implement any dress code they wish, and there are no city rules requiring they publicly post or officially record their dress code, said Efrat Stein, spokeswoman for the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection.

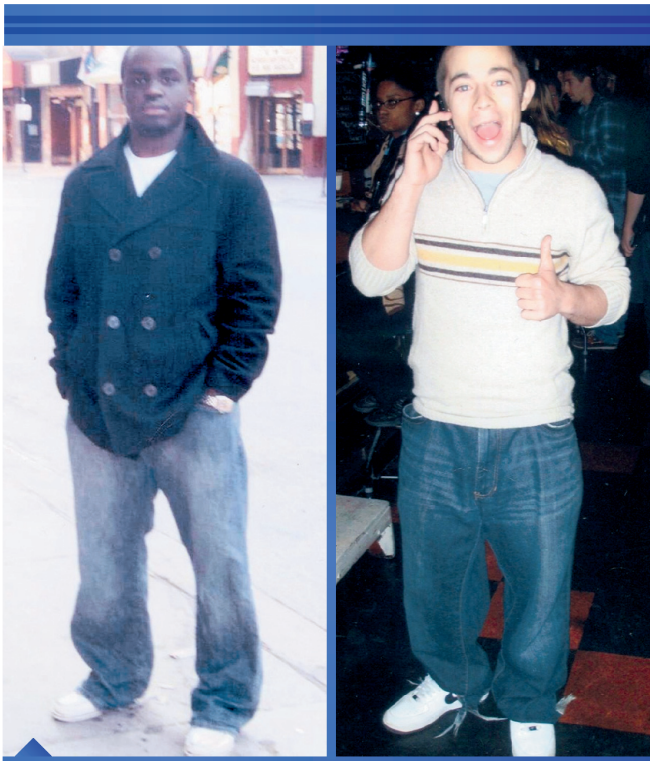
But as a highly publicized incident last month at the Original Mother’s nightclub on Division Street showed, dress codes can cause headaches when the language or enforcement are perceived as discriminatory.

The six black students who were denied entry to Mother’s say they were turned away because of their race and not, as the bouncers told them, because their baggy jeans violated the dress code. The students said white friends wearing similarly baggy pants were allowed in, according to news reports. The students, from Washington University in St. Louis, opted not to press charges after Mother’s agreed to issue a public apology and have managers at the bar undergo diversity sensitivity and awareness training.

Bars can have any dress code they want as long as they’re not discriminating against any protected classes, said Kenneth Gunn, first deputy commissioner at Chicago’s Commission on Human Relations, which administers the city’s Human Rights Ordinance. “If they decided nobody in black habits can come in, that would be discriminating based on religion.”

Of course, nun habits are rarely among bars’ banned attire. More commonly, baggy pants, hats and jerseys are on the hit list.

Bar managers say dress codes help maintain an upscale atmosphere.



Regis Murayi (left), a Washington University student, was denied entrance to the Original Mother’s bar because of a policy forbidding baggy pants. Fellow student Jordan Roberts was allowed into the bar wearing a pair of Murayi’s similarly baggy pants.

At 10 Pin, a swanky bowling alley and lounge downtown, the dress code prohibits excessively baggy clothing, ripped jeans, work boots and athletic attire such as sweat pants and sweat-suits, said General Manager Victor Tieri.

“I don’t want to see anyone’s underwear, and I don’t think anyone else does either,” Tieri said of the baggy clothes policy.

Some customers appreciate dress codes.

Carlos Hernandez, 22, a server who lives in the Gold Coast, said he feels the clientele where he works went downhill after the restaurant, which he declined to name, got rid of its dress code. People are better mannered when they have to dress nicely, he said. Also, the less affluent the customers, he said, the worse his tips.

Others simply won’t patronize bars that have dress codes.

As they stood outside of Lucky Strike, another downtown bowling alley and lounge, Erica Neal and her companions scrutinized a large sign that warned entering patrons: “Dress code

strictly enforced.”

The prohibited attire, as listed on the sign, includes: athletic wear, sweats or sports jerseys; MC colors (which stands for motorcycle club colors); excessively baggy clothing; sleeveless T-shirts; plain white T-shirts; construction boots; headgear; chains; and ripped or soiled clothing.

“It’s kind of off-putting,” said Neal, 27, of Hyde Park. “Basically it says that if you’re young, urban and blue collar, you can’t come in.”

Her husband, Brad Neal, 28, said he thought it was sexist, as the banned attire targeted men. The group decided not to go in the bar.

“Why take yourself that seriously?” Neal said.

Lucky Strike General Manager Chris Logan wrote in an e-mail that the bar’s dress code “ensures guests are in appropriate attire for our upscale lounge atmosphere. It is applied in a fair, professional and even-handed manner.”

At VLive, a nightclub in Logan Square, General Manager Rafael Mendoza said it’s up to the bouncer’s discretion to deter-

Jerry Montanoof checks an ID on Thursday at the entrance of Redhead Piano Bar.

CHASE AGNELLO-DEAN/REDEYE



Up to code?

Chicago's Human Rights Ordinance protects people against discrimination based on race, color, sex, gender identity, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, military discharge status, or source of income. The law applies to "public accommodations," which is basically any place that offers services to the public—including bars and nightclubs.

A RedEye review of discrimination complaints filed with the Human Relations Commission found three separate dress-code related complaints over the past three years, all of them claiming race discrimination against nightclubs that prohibited braids in their dress code policy.

said. "You have to stick with what is the image of the place."

ALEXIA.ELEJALDE-QUIZ@TRIBUNE.COM



THE DUDS REPORT

When Joey Vartanian started in the bar business in the 1980s, he remembers patrons dressing sleekly for a night on the town—nice pants, nice shirt and, most importantly, nice shoes.

Today, a proliferation of gym shoes on bar- and clubgoers represents a general dressing-down in night life attire, especially among men, said Vartanian, owner of Crobar nightclub in Lincoln Park.

"I see couples going out all the time where a girl dresses up and a guy looks like he just rolled out of bed," Vartanian said. "I think these women shouldn't accept it."

Some in the nightlife industry say fancy looks might be coming back.

Skinny ties and new-wave jackets are in, and "Mad Men" has inspired a retro '60s look, said Rich Kewitz, a creative consultant for the hospitality industry.

The tough economy also is fostering a more polished bar wardrobe, Kewitz said, as people are treating their more infrequent nights on the town as special occasions or networking opportunities.

Club fashions, which generally follow pop music trends, also are exhibiting a return to glamour, said Shaina Van Selus, a promoter at Berlin nightclub in Lakeview.

The resurgence of disco music and the influence of Lady Gaga have encouraged club-goers to experiment with gold lame, face paint, jewels, leather and studs, in ways that try to imitate wealth, Van Selus said.

"I see a lot of big over-the-top gold necklaces, lots of feathers," she said.

Some are nostalgic for the days when dressing to impress was de rigueur for the young and hip.

Cuvee, an upscale Champagne lounge in River North that opened in August, has a strict dress code that encourages men to wear collared shirts in hopes of bringing back a more formal era.

Of course, what people wear depends on where they're going.

People wear jeans and T-shirts to Wicker Park sports bar Boundary, manager Emily Wood said, though on weekends they dress up a little more—usually by putting on a nicer pair of jeans. ALEXIA.ELEJALDE-QUIZ

SOME PROHIBITED ITEMS

- » tennis shoes
- » gym shoes
- » walking shoes
- » hiking boots
- » sandals
- » flip-flops
- » T-shirts
- » jerseys
- » jeans
- » baggy pants
- » sweat suits
- » headgear
- » chains

mine who meets the "hip and trendy" dress code.

Mendoza said the club has avoided having a formal dress code in order to stay flexible.

"It's not necessarily about how they're dressed; it's their attitude," Mendoza said. "If you're dressed sharp and here for the right reason, then come on in."

VLive made headlines last month when a 17-year-old male was fatally shot in the club during a concert. Police say the teen was involved in an altercation, but no one has been charged with his murder, according to news reports. Mendoza declined to comment on the incident, but said the point of the dress code isn't for safety.

At Redhead, which has had a dress code since it opened 16 years ago, enforcement is strict as ever. Bryan credits the dress code with the bar's success, as "when people dress nicely, they act nicely."

"There could be days where we're turning away 100-plus people, but I always see it as a long-term business decision," Bryan



Protesters voice their opinions about the budget Thursday outside the CTA Headquarters. ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE

City to pay snowplow drivers overtime

Chicago Tribune

Looking to avoid a repeat of last winter's complaints, the city will pay snowplow drivers overtime this winter after failing to find a company to clear side streets.

Mayor Daley made the announcement Thursday as he pledged that snow removal will be done as efficiently as possible.

"You have to do an effective job on the major streets and get to the side streets as fast as possible," said Daley, speaking at the city's 911 center on the topic of winter preparedness.

Early last winter, residents railed against the Daley administration's decision to slash overtime for drivers to save money. As a result, some side streets were left snow-bound for longer-than-normal periods after heavy winter storms. Daley later reversed course.

This year, Daley sought bids from private firms to handle the side streets, with the idea that Streets and Sanitation Department crews could handle the main routes.

Streets and Sanitation Commissioner Thomas Byrne said the department will use cameras monitoring city streets to make sure plow drivers are doing an efficient job. Sensors on the trucks will determine how much salt each vehicle is spreading per block, and whether the plow blades are up or down.

That will free up supervisors, who don't get overtime, to work on the streets, Byrne said.

"There will be overtime," Byrne said. "We'll assess the situation as we see it. The sooner we can get trucks off the arterials into the side streets, we'll do that as immediately as we can. We can also look at trying to pull some trucks off the mains and get them into the side streets as we're still doing the mains, depending on the severity of the storm."

In the meantime, Daley said he'll be praying for a mild winter. The city's financial situation has remained bleak during the tough economic times, so there's not a lot of extra money lying around.

Slowdown, commuters

CTA approves new budget that cuts service, jobs

Chicago Tribune

Maria Mora doesn't have to travel far for class. The bus route from her South Loop home to the downtown Adler School of Professional Psychology is less than two miles.

But under a plan Chicago Transit Authority leaders approved Thursday, her 15 minute commute soon will double. Mora's regular route—the King Drive Express—was one of nine express routes eliminated in a cost-cutting move.

"I don't know how [the elimination] is going to work out," said Mora, 25, who in a few months will be forced to take a local route that makes more stops. "In the winter time, it's going to be just terrible."

The dilemma is one that will be repeated across Chicago after CTA leaders signed off on a new budget that holds the line on fare increases but results in more than 1,000 layoffs and service cuts on rail lines and dozens

of bus routes.

Come Feb. 7, riders will be vexed. And waiting in the cold. There will be less frequent service on 110 of the CTA's 150 bus routes. That means during off-peak hours, riders will wait up to 20 minutes on some major routes and up to 30 minutes on other routes. The system's rail lines will experience a similar reduction in train frequency.

Express bus service will be eliminated on routes including the Western, Irving Park, Cottage Grove, and Ashland lines. And riders relying on some early-morning routes may have to scramble to find alternative transportation because "service spans" on 41 routes will be reduced.

On those routes, buses will have later start times—sometimes as much as an hour later. Many of those routes also will stop service earlier in the day. For example, the No. 8-Halsted bus currently begins service at 2:45 a.m., but that would be pushed back to 4 a.m. next year. And instead of running until 2:20 a.m., service will be suspended at 12:30 a.m., almost two hours earlier.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE

Transit officials say the agency still faces a \$100 million hole that also will result in layoffs early next year unless unions agree to concessions such as unpaid days off and pay cuts.

The service cuts are coming despite money coming from a borrowing deal between CTA leaders and Gov. Quinn announced Wednesday. On Thursday, riders fretted about the longer waits that await them and the likelihood that buses will be more crowded with fewer of them running.

Anne Marshall, 35, who teaches at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said she finds it disturbing that a city the size of Chicago is struggling to maintain its public transportation.

"I choose to take public transportation, but there are many people who do not have a choice," said Marshall, who relies on public transit when she wants to travel downtown from her West Loop home.

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Ryan apologizes for role in Nicarico case

Republican governor candidate Jim Ryan said Thursday he was "sorry" for his repeated wrongful death-penalty prosecutions in the killing of Jeanine Nicarico and suggested voters should be allowed to make their voices known on whether the state should continue to sentence people to death.

The comments were prompted by a DuPage County jury's sentencing this week of Brian Dugan to death for the 1983 kidnapping, rape and killing of the 10-year-old Naperville girl.

It marked the first time Ryan has apologized for leading the wrongful prosecutions of Rolando Cruz and Alex Hernandez, who twice were sentenced to Death Row and saw their convictions overturned and later were determined to be innocent of the murder.

Ryan, who spent a decade as DuPage County's chief prosecutor prior to his two terms as Illinois attorney general, repeatedly has said he based his case against Cruz and Hernandez on the best information available at the time.



Chase leads to crash

Three people were arrested Thursday after their van crashed while eluding Chicago police officers, who were pursuing them in connection with a shooting that left a man wounded on the West Side. The van ended up crashing at Washtenaw Avenue and Flournoy Street, a little more than a mile away from where the shooting took place. **MIKE ANZALDI PHOTO FOR THE TRIBUNE**

Archdiocese: Priest abused boys

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago has found credible evidence that a priest on the West Side sexually abused two boys, according to a letter from Auxiliary Bishop John Manz to parishioners. Rev. Edward Maloney, a retired priest who served at St. Mark Roman Catholic Church for 21 years until 1996, was removed from the ministry several months ago. The abuse of two male victims, now in their late 30s and early 40s, is alleged to have taken place about 20 years ago.

CTA bus driver seriously injured

A CTA bus driver was seriously injured Thursday evening when shots struck his bus as he drove on the South Side, officials said. The incident happened near 79th Street and Emerald Avenue at about 7 p.m., said fire department spokesman Joseph Roccasalva. The driver suffered numerous cuts from a shattered windshield, but fire department spokesman Larry Langford said the driver didn't appear to have been shot.

3 shot in alley on South Side

Two men and a woman were shot just before noon Thursday in a South Side alley. Chicago Police Officer JoAnn Taylor, a police spokeswoman, said the victims' wounds did not appear life-threatening. A group of people were standing in an alley between the 8100 block of South Cottage Grove and South Maryland when a man ran toward them and opened fire, police said. He fled on foot.

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Obama's Afghan plans

1 President Obama is seeking a path in Afghanistan that combines elements of options considered so far and includes a way to signal that the U.S. war commitment has limits, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said while in Wisconsin on Thursday. Obama may decide this month whether to increase the U.S. force in Afghanistan by as many as 40,000 personnel next year.

Illegal immigrants in jail

2 More than 111,000 illegal immigrants are serving time in state and local prisons and jails in the U.S., Obama administration officials said Thursday. The figure is based on reports from 95 jurisdictions in 11 states participating in a national program, Secure Communities.



3 NYC buys Coney Island

New York City has signed a contract to acquire 6.9 acres in Coney Island for \$95.6 million from Thor Equities, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced. The deal gives the city ownership of 92 percent of the land that will become a 12-acre outdoor amusement park, the mayor said. **GETTY IMAGES**

Facebook saves the day

4 A New York teen narrowly avoided a 25-year jail term for armed robbery thanks to a Facebook status update he posted about pancakes, his lawyer said Thursday. Rodney Bradford was accused of breaking into a Brooklyn residence, but was able to corroborate his alibi thanks to a posting to his Facebook page that showed what he was doing at the time of the crime.

Blackwater investigation

5 Iraq's interior minister said Wednesday that he had ordered an investigation into whether top officials of Blackwater Worldwide approved bribes to Iraqi officials after shootings by Blackwater guards in 2007 left 17 Iraqi civilians dead.

Spider smuggler

6 A British man was arrested in the Rio de Janeiro airport after security X-rays discovered he was trying to smuggle 1,000 live spiders out in his luggage, reports said Thursday. The man was apprehended late Wednesday for violating laws banning the export of Brazilian animals without authorization.

Fort Hood suspect charged with 13 counts of murder

7 FORT HOOD, Texas The Army charged Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan on Thursday with 13 counts of premeditated murder in connection with the killings last week at Fort Hood.

If convicted, Hasan could face the death penalty.

Chris Grey, a spokesman for the Army criminal investigation division, called the murder charges "a first step in the court-martial process."



Hasan

IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In Fort Hood on Thursday, a unit that lost four soldiers in the shootout gathered for a memorial ceremony. The 20th Engineer Brigade had 21 soldiers at the post readiness center when the gunman began firing on a crowd of GIs.

He did not rule out the filing of more charges against Hasan, an Army psychiatrist now recovering from gunshot wounds at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

The penalty for premeditated murder, according to Article 118 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, is "death or imprisonment

for life as a court-martial may direct."

Meanwhile, the FBI said Thursday it appears Hasan acted alone and was not involved in terrorist activities when a terrorism task force crossed paths with him last year.

Grey, speaking at a brief news conference where no questions were taken, said Hasan had been shot by two Fort Hood police officers, a statement apparently designed to quell widespread speculation about which officer shot Hasan after he allegedly fired more than 100 rounds into Fort Hood's crowded Soldier Readiness Center. The barrage killed 13 people and wounded 42.



Seeking higher ground

8 NEWPORT NEWS, Va. Rescuers pull two residents to dry ground Thursday after heavy rains flooded an apartment complex. About 40 people had to be evacuated. **MCT**



GETTY IMAGES

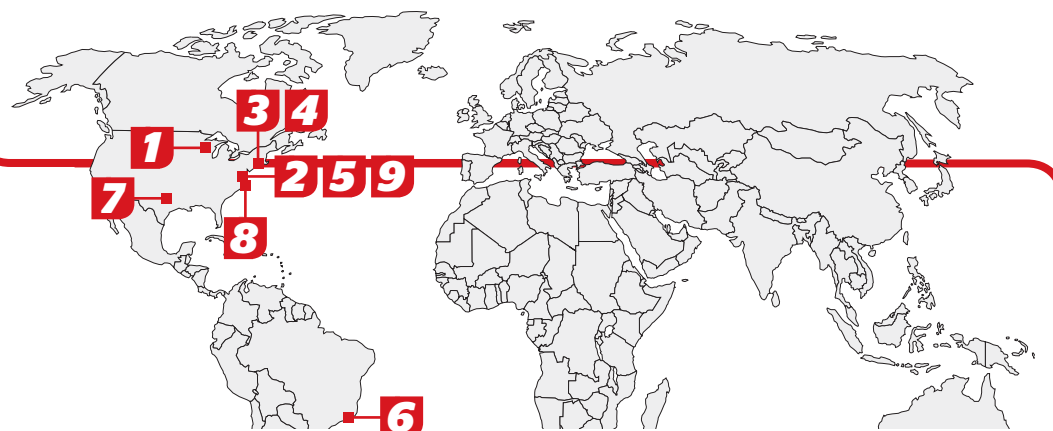
Good news on job front

9 WASHINGTON The number of U.S. workers filing new claims for jobless benefits last week fell to the lowest level since January, the government said Thursday, evidence the hard-hit labor market may be slowly improving.

Initial claims for state unemployment insurance dropped to 502,000 in the week ended Nov. 7 from a revised 514,000 the prior week.

"It shows that companies are cutting jobs at a slower pace than during the financial crisis," said Gary Thayer, chief macrostrategist for Wells Fargo Advisers in St. Louis.

The U.S. economy lost 190,000 jobs last month and the unemployment rate hit a 26-1/2-year high of 10.2 percent. Meanwhile, on Thursday, President Obama announced the White House would hold a forum on jobs growth in December.



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sports

SAN FRANCISCO 10, BEARS 6

JAY CUTLER'S FIVE INTERCEPTIONS COST BEARS

Chicago Tribune

SAN FRANCISCO Unfortunately for the Bears, they still have two more night games left on their schedule.

Jay Cutler's night vision wasn't functioning properly again Thursday. The Bears quarterback threw a career-high five interceptions, including one to safety Michael Lewis in the end zone as time expired, sealing a 10-6 loss to the 49ers.

The Bears are now 0-3 in night games this season, all on the road. They will host the Eagles in a 7:20 p.m. game Nov. 22 and the Vikings in a 7:30 p.m. start Dec. 28.

More importantly, the Bears (4-5) continue to fade out of the playoff picture. They've lost four of their last five games and still have the Vikings (7-1), Eagles (5-3), Packers (4-4) and Ravens (4-4) left on the schedule.

The defense actually gave the Bears a chance to win this time, holding the 49ers to one Frank Gore touchdown and a field goal. But the offense couldn't manage to put up points against a San Francisco team that allowed 21.8 points per game coming in.

Cutler wasn't to blame for all the interceptions, as receiver Devin Hester slipped on one of them. Regardless, he now has 11 interceptions in night games this season at Green Bay, Atlanta and San Francisco. And he has a league-worst five interceptions in the red zone after two more Thursday.

CUT DOWN

Eyes on the prize

At RedEye, we've noticed that Jay Cutler always seems to wear his helmet really low, so low that you can't even see his eyes sometimes. If we can't see his eyes, can he see the field? Perhaps that's one reason for his erratic throws. Let's compare Cutler's helmet position to some of the NFL's best quarterbacks.



BEAR REPORT

Coming into Thursday night's game, Bears fans had a lot of concerns about their team. Here's how the Bears answered their critics. **REDEYE**

CONCERN: The running game has been abysmal, at best.

ANSWER: Matt Forte looked best when he was catching the ball, not running it (he rushed 20 times for 41 yards). His biggest runs of the night came after perfectly designed screen passes. And at one point, he couldn't punch it into the end zone from inside the five-yard line.

CONCERN: The offensive line is being manhandled.

ANSWER: Forte ran past his blockers on more than one occasion before he even reached the line of scrimmage. For the uninitiated, that's not good. Jay Cutler was rushed, hurried and knocked down quite a few times as well.

CONCERN: Red zone production has been pathetic.

ANSWER: Forte couldn't run it in, Cutler couldn't throw it in. He even threw two picks in the red zone, something that has happened a few other times this season.

CONCERN: The defense is porous, particularly the secondary.

ANSWER: The defense wasn't a weak link in this game. It answered Vernon Davis' putdowns with a solid effort, limiting the 49ers to just a field goal and a touchdown. Davis, who said he thought the 49ers could handle the Bears D, also was a non-factor.

CONCERN: The offensive play-calling is second-rate.

ANSWER: It was nice to see the screen passes to Forte, and when the offense was working early, tight end Greg Olsen was involved. Still, too many runs up the gut (when has that worked this season?) and too many third-and-long calls resulted in the team staring at a fourth down.

CONCERN: Jay Cutler is inconsistent.

ANSWER: Cutler was consistent Thursday—consistently bad. He threw five interceptions, threw several passes off-target and seemed out-of-sync most of the night. He looked best when hooking up with Olsen and with Forte on those screens. And when he could have won the game, he threw his fifth interception—second in the red zone—as time expired.

Jay Cutler walks back to the sideline Thursday night after he threw an interception in the third quarter.

GETTY IMAGES



- 1 Jay Cutler
- 2 Peyton Manning
- 3 Drew Brees
- 4 Brett Favre
- 5 Donovan McNabb

It's a winter wonderland

Let's say we take a break.

Yes, Lovie and your sorry crew, you get a reprieve. Respite? Whatever it means when the ref sends you to your corner for 10 seconds or so after you've been pummeled beyond recognition.

Besides, the news is good. After last night's game, only 23 more games left in the Lovie Smith era.

This week is for little shoutouts. It looks like our upcoming winter will be ... pleasant.

We've got two watchable teams here doing some nice work.

First, the Bulls. Hats off, you're tough. Thanks to Joakim Noah, who dedicated himself this offseason, the Bulls have a center. Counting Brad Miller, they have two centers. These guys can play.

Add to this the remerging Luol Deng, who scores and rebounds, some decent guards in Kirk Hinrich and John Salmons, and we have a playoff team.

One complaint, however. Noah needs to take whatever energy drink he's drinking, whatever self-help book he's reading and whatever video he's watching and give them to Tyrus Thomas.

I fear young Tyrus has Eddy Curry's disease, which unfortunately has no cure. Other than that, we have two outstanding rookies to take his place, Taj Gibson and James Johnson. We're actually kind of loaded, so maybe we get a free agent and we're back in business.

OK, the other United Center occupant. These guys are very good. Like maybe the best in the NHL.

Plus, they're on TV. It's like it's the 1960s all over again. Pop in a "Mad Men" DVD, watch a couple of episodes, then go to a Hawks game. Time travel, my friends.

Seriously, they're very good, very young. Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews can't drive, but they can score. It's all I ask.

Jermaine Dye is not young, however, so the Sox say goodbye. I'll say he is one of the classiest to wear the uniform, and I'll never forget him.

We now return to the regularly scheduled Bears mauling.



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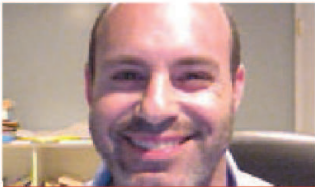




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No Bears zone

Zobia Chunara of Northside College Prep and The Mash accepted our Facebook Fives invite. Too bad That Guy did too. redeyechicago.com/5on5.

TOPIC	 JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@chicagonow.com	 TRACY SWARTZ twitter.com/tracyswartz	 PHILLIP THOMPSON plthompson@tribune.com	 THAT GUY redeyesports@tribune.com	 ZOBIA CHUNARA themash@tribune.com
1 Sunday without the Bears is like an eye without a fork in it.	... Sunday without the prayers. Three Hail Marys does not equal purity in football.	... Twitter without Chad Ochocinco; jail without Mike Tyson; a supermarket tabloid without a Gosselin.	... a typical Sunday. They haven't shown up for weeks.	... a Sunday without the sun.
2 The Eagles are next for the Bears. What's your early take on that matchup?	Pretty even, what with Brian Urlacher and Chuck Bednarik both not playing.	Eagles: Always a bridesmaid. Bears: The drunk uncle barred from the ceremonies.	DeSean Jackson will DeStroy our secondary.	Not even the Bill Swerski super fan dance can save them from McNabb.	Since this is a home game, the Bears have a shot. On the road they suck—a lot.
3 What's gotten into Joakim Noah this season?	On the advice of counsel I decline to answer.	Better question: What's Jo Noah gotten into? Answer: A lady never tells.	Troy Polamalu forced him to switch shampoos.	He saw his reflection and it scared him.	He is doing really well because he has been averaging a double-double every game—almost.
4 Looking back, what do you think of the early-season paranoia around Blackhawks goalie Cristobal Huet?	I learned a valuable lesson: Don't eat pot brownies before Nov. 1.	Because he's from France? Perhaps Huet is the "boy" in "boycott," circa 2003.	Not only is Cristobal Huet a great goalie, but a fine prestige cuvee with a full-bodied fruit bouquet.	I'm paranoid about my sex tape(s) getting online.	They were sort of right. Huet wasn't that good when he started, and he still isn't.
5 The Fire can get into the MLS Cup with a win Saturday. Say something to, um, fire them up.	We're very proud of you, probably even more so than our other minor-league teams.	You'd better watch your step, Real Salt Lake girl/Cause you're playing with Fire.	Do it for Cuauhtemoc Blanco ... who, um, is about to leave you.	The Bears blow smoke, the Bulls sparkle, and the Fire light it up every time.	The roof is on fire—we don't need no water, let it burn.

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READY, AIM, FIRE

Team has sights set on MLS Cup

By **Kent Green**
FOR REDEYE

MLS might as well make a “reserved” sign for the Fire in the Eastern Conference finals.

Saturday’s game against Real Salt Lake at Toyota Park will be the team’s third straight appearance in the conference finals and fourth in the past five years. The Fire lost to the Columbus Crew last year and to the New England Revolution in 2007 and 2005.

This year may be a critical one for the Fire’s MLS Cup hopes as several potentially big off-season roster changes loom.

Midfielder Cuauhtemoc Blanco already has said he’ll leave to play for Veracruz, and speedy forward Chris Rolfe is heading to play in Denmark’s top league in 2010. Also, the contracts of Brian McBride, Wilman Conde and Gonzalo



WATCH DOG Fire vs. Real Salt Lake

7 p.m. Saturday,
Fox Soccer Channel

A Chicago sports team with a chance to reach a title game? Sounds like an early Christmas present.

Segares are up, and Marco Pappa’s transfer deal from Guatemalan club Municipal runs out after the season. Veteran defenseman Brandon Prideaux has announced he’ll retire at the end of the year.

If this were a TV show, we’d be bracing ourselves for the inferior spin-off. But Fire coach Denis Hamlett said the possible turnover doesn’t weigh on the team.

“You guys [the media] are the ones that keep talking about it,” he said. “We just go about our business.”

Fire goalkeeper Jon Busch isn’t worried either. “It’s all about the here and now,” he said. “The winner goes on to the finals. That’s motivation enough for both teams.”

Whether it’s because of the likely end of his time with the Fire—and possibly MLS—or not, Blanco’s play has been motivated as of late. He came off the bench in the Fire’s regular-season finale and served the corner kick that ended up as a Chivas USA’s own-goal, sealing the Fire’s play-

off berth. Then, in the second game against the Revolution, he set up the first goal and showed patience under pressure to drive the second and series-clinching goal home in the 83rd minute. “He’s a special player,” said Real Salt Lake coach Jason Kreis. “He’s a player that sees passes and can make plays that the majority of players can’t, to be completely honest.”

Though RSL snuck into the playoffs, it won’t be a pushover. The team ousted defending champs Columbus in Ohio. They sport dangerous wingers Robbie Findley and Yura Movsisyan, and they’re coming with, as Kreis put it, “an extra chip on our shoulder” because the Fire won the regular-season series between the two 1-0-1.

RSL will need whatever help they can get. They went 2-11-2 on the road this season and face a formidable atmosphere at Toyota Park. There was a standing-room-only 21,528 Nov. 7 against the Revs, and since this the first time the Fire has hosted a conference final, the team is expecting another raucous sellout.

“Hopefully for us, being at home is going to be the advantage that we had last weekend,” Busch said. **KENT GREEN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**



Cuauhtemoc Blanco
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AthTweets

Sports stars have embraced Twitter, but do they score with their tweets? Let's see.



Jennie Finch

@jfinch27
Bandits, softball
2:40am wake up call is hitting me hard right about now! Starbucks couldn't even save the day!

Larry Fitzgerald

@Lfitzgerald11
Arizona Cardinals
Every mornin u wake up, think of it as being a race. Set the pace by taking the early lead & don't let anyone get close! B @ ur best daily!

Ray Rice

@RayRice27
Baltimore Ravens
Gotta run to wal mart for a sec. be back in a flash.

Tony Hawk

@tonyhawk
Pro skateboarder
I hate it when people tweet about coffee (or the lack thereof) but I am 3 cappuccinos, 2 iced teas and 1 mocha deep before noon. Let's talk.



Tiger Woods plays out of a bunker on the 12th hole Thursday.

GETTY IMAGES

Tiger thunder Down Under

MELBOURNE Tiger Woods brought the Australian Masters to a standstill with traffic jams, road closures and long lines as he made a memorable first Australian tournament appearance in 11 years Thursday.

The 14-time major winner fired seven birdies and just one bogey as he opened his Australian Masters challenge with a six-under 66 at Kingston Heath.

Woods was in a three-way share of the lead with young South African Branden Grace and Australian James Nitties.

Spectators climbed into trees to get a glimpse of Woods as thousands clamored to watch his every move. Parking lots were full soon after sunrise, and all spectator vantage spots were snapped up as the world No. 1 teed off early in his opening round.

Even Woods said he was caught up in a traffic jam from Melbourne to the outlying course, but the all-time golfing great was highly complimentary of the reception he received.

"The crowd was great today," Woods said. "The people were obviously excited about the pairing and they were extremely

respectful, and they were actually policing themselves, which is great as we don't get that too often.

"The galleries are very knowledgeable, and they were trying to help us out with other people who were taking pictures."

On the 13th green, some spectators climbed into the low branches of trees in a bid to get a better view of the 14-time major winner as he made his way up the fairway.

The crowds were largely orderly and respectful while Woods played his shots with a phalanx of fans' mobile phone cameras capturing his every move.

This was despite an edict from organizers that no cameras or mobile phones would be allowed on to the course in case they distracted the golfers, primarily Woods.

They were trying to ensure there was no repeat of crowd incidents that angered Woods during last week's WGC-HSBC Champions event in Shanghai.

Woods was incensed when a camera clicked as he was teeing off at the seventh fairway and his shot found a bunker in last Sunday's final round.

Woods is chasing his 93rd tournament title.



» Blackhawks winger Marian Hossa upped the ante in his rehabilitation from shoulder surgery after Thursday's practice. The veteran participated in light contact drills after practice with defenseman Jordan Hendry.

» The New Orleans Hornets have fired head coach Byron Scott and replaced him with general manager Jeff Bower, the NBA team said Thursday.

» **Espn.com's** Buster Olney reports Mark Prior is working out and throwing off flat ground in preparation for auditioning with MLB scouts.

Friday's college basketball games: Loyola at Kansas St. 7 p.m.; Illinois vs. SIU-Edwardsville 7 p.m.; Northwestern vs. N. Illinois 7 p.m.



watch dog

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I don't know what I'll do Sunday without the Bears playing. Oh, I know, maybe I'll actually enjoy the day. Here now, my TV picks.



NHL Blackhawks vs. Toronto

7:30 p.m. CSN
Like all around the city, the Maple Leaves will fall. I'm not raking them up, though.



COLLEGE BASKETBALL Indiana vs. Howard

7 p.m. Big Ten Network
Kinda unfair for the Hoosiers to take on one guy. I'm sure Howard feels the same way. Poor guy.





MLS L.A. Galaxy vs. Houston

10 p.m. ESPN2
David Beckham and Co. try to make the MLS finals. Like Becks needs any more success.

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metromix

Star power

Inside:
Big Star1531 N.
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WICKER PARK'S DIVE-BY-DESIGN DOLES OUT CHEAP THRILLS AND SIMPLE SWILLS

By Lisa Arnett

Big Star, the spot that's taken over the old Pontiac space in Wicker Park, has announced itself as a honky tonk-inspired, taco-slinging dive bar paying respects to the drinker's trinity: whiskey, tequila and beer.

But to be fair, real dive bars don't have skylights. Or publicists. Or such clean bathrooms. If the idea of manufac-

tured hipness bothers you, you probably haven't hung out in Wicker Park since Urban Outfitters moved in.

But like a true dive bar, Big Star's owners have history with our city. Collectively they've had their hands in Avec, Blackbird, the Publican, the Violet Hour and Danny's Tavern, which was serving the 'hood before Pontiac cracked its first can of beer.

Big Star
BARRY BRECHEISEN
FOR METROMIX

the scene

Pontiac was well-loved for its alfresco scene, but it wasn't a year-round destination. Big Star is destined to be. Opening-night crowds on Nov. 9 had the bar at capacity by early evening. (Ironic comment overheard in line: "Do you want to go over to Violet Hour for a drink instead?") Inside, country tunes, from the Flying Burrito Brothers to Johnny Cash, drift over the clamor of wall-to-wall people.

the crowd

Everyone's curious. Artsy West Towners pack in alongside Cubs hat-wearing dudes, lone 9-to-5ers still in suits, industry folks and foodies tucking menus into their pockets and mentally penning their lthforum.com reviews. In the opening week frenzy, the aim here

isn't as much be seen as it is to inhale every taco and tequila shot you can get your hands on.

the lay of the land

Concrete floor, painted brick walls, bare light bulbs dangling from the ceiling—the look is deliberately raw. Bar stools surround a large square bar that dominates the room and a half-dozen wooden booths line one wall, but if it's crowded—and it will be—your best bet is to grab a few inches of the ledge that runs around the perimeter.

the drinks

This is the kind of place where we'd like to leisurely pick our bartender's brain about the small-batch spirits lining the bar (Michael Rubel of the



Violet Hour selected them), but for now, they just don't have the time. Cocktails are far from the Violet Hour's in price (\$7 compared to \$12) and preparation (no eyedropper-required concoctions here). Tequilas are showcased in simple margaritas, palomas and shots passed over the counter with lime wedges and cans of Tecate. Whiskeys will please both aficionados and novices, who will find the lineup approachable in drinks such as the spicy Bakersfield Buck (Old Heaven Hill, ginger beer and lime) and the Black Cherry Fizz (Old Grand Dad and black cherry soda). And don't overlook the beers, from a \$1 short pour of Schlitz to new-to-Chicago Green Flash IPA (\$3).

the eats

With a James Beard Award-winning executive chef (Paul Kahan) and a veteran of Avec and Blackbird

(Justin Large) in the kitchen, you're going to want a taco with your drink. Choose from three kinds plus tostadas, snacks and salads, all at prices that manage to compete with the neighborhood's taquerias (tacos and tostadas are \$2-\$3). The crispy pork belly tacos had us swooning, yet they were upstaged by the smoky, spicy rajas de poblano, a sort of Mexican casserole of roasted poblano pepper strips, onions, crema and jack cheese, served with warm house-made tortillas.

bottom line

Perhaps Big Star is trying hard to look like it's not trying hard. But when everything's executed so well—and the price is right—it hardly matters.

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE AND SHOPPING PRODUCER. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM. DINING PRODUCER M. KATHLEEN PRATT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REVIEW.

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore
rkpalmore@tribune.comfri
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Second Fridays

Halsted and 18th Streets,
1800 S. Halsted St.
312-738-8000 ext. 108.

FREE

Expanding on its visual art theme, this monthly walking tour of Pilsen adds performance art and shopping opportunities to its roster of opening receptions at galleries. Pick up a map at the information center, located at 1821 S. Halsted St. 6 p.m.

Circuit Girl LOL

Circuit Night Club, 3641 N. Halsted
St. 773-325-2233

Catch some laughs with comedians Kristen Clifford, Cameron Esposito and Kelsie Huff at this monthly party hosted by Tamale Sepp. 8 p.m.



Zombie Outbreak

sat
14Portage Theater,
4050 N. Milwaukee Ave.
773-736-4050

Celebrate the living dead with eight hours of indie horror flicks, director Q&As, vendors, trivia, a zombie makeup contest and giveaways. 4 p.m. \$10-\$12.

Winter Pageant

Redmoon Central, 1463 W. Hubbard
St. 312-850-8440 ext. 111

Lose yourself in Redmoon Theater's annual spectacle featuring masked characters who journey through seasonal landscapes. Previews: 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Through Dec. 27. \$15.

Reeling Closing Night

sun
15Music Box Theatre,
3733 N. Southport Ave.
773-293-1447

The annual festival of lesbian and gay films wraps up with a screening of Evgeny Afineevsky's new comedy, "Oy Vey! My Son is Gay!!" starring Carmen Electra, Jai Rodriguez and Lainie Kazan. \$10-\$12. 7:30 p.m.

THE BREAKDOWN

Beer vs. cocktail ratio: 60/40

Girls vs. guys ratio: 50/50

Velvet rope factor: Zero, though opening-week crowds brought the bar to capacity at times.

Hookup factor: Warm, if you're looking to bag a stylish foodie or break the ice with some obscure-whiskey discussion.

Danceability: Low. There's just enough room to walk, let alone get your groove on.

Don't bring: A first date. The sight of

you slopping tostada toppings onto the bar should be reserved for people who already know and like you.

Wear: Jeans, boots and if you want to fully embrace the honky tonk spirit and potentially be mistaken for staff, a checkered shirt.

Loved it: Tortilla chips that put Mercadito's to shame

Hated it: Walk-up taco window doesn't open for two weeks.

Can't wait for: The 90-seat beer garden in spring 2010

Value: Excellent. \$2-\$3 for tacos, \$7 for cocktails, \$1-\$5 for most beer.

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773-478-9999.

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martinis; 23 W. Hubbard
St. 312-661-1230.

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Spaten drafts, \$4
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\$6 pasta dinners;
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773-248-0990.

THE FIRKIN & PHEASANT

\$5 Stoli martinis, \$3
Coors Light pints,
\$3.50 select domestic

beer bottles, \$4 Stoli
cocktails, \$5 import
drafts, \$12 Coors
Light pitchers;
670 W. Diversey Pkwy.
773-327-7040.

FORNO DIABLO

\$6 Absolut martinis;
433 W. Diversey Pkwy.
773-525-6400.

THE GRAND CENTRAL

\$5 Absolut martinis
and Bacardi bombs,
\$5 appetizers;
950 W. Wrightwood
Ave. 773-832-4000.

GRAND RIVER

\$5 martinis, \$3 Corona
and Corona Light
bottles, \$3 SoCo Lime
shots, \$4 wraps;
3032 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-281-9900.

HAWKEYE'S BAR AND GRILL

\$6 Absolut martinis,
\$3 bubblegum bombs
and SoCo shots, \$4
draft of the month, \$4
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312-226-3951.

JUNIOR'S SPORTS LOUNGE

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724 W. Maxwell St.
312-421-2277.

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773-528-6670.

RANALLI'S ON CLARK

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Belvedere cocktails;
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\$5 Long Island iced
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W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

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773-472-0449.

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S. Lake Shore Drive. 312-791-6190.

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8 p.m. \$18-\$22. Old Town
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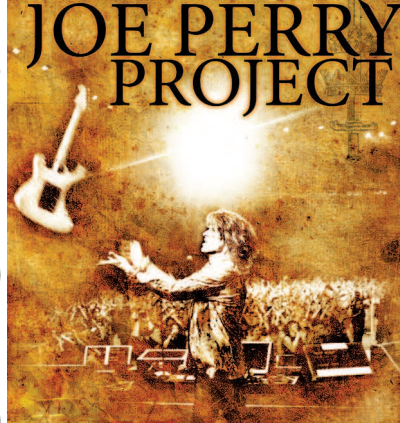
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ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

B. B. King, Sunday, April 25 (\$33-\$36, 21+) at House of Blues.

Rusted Root, Sunday, Dec. 27 (\$35.50-\$37.50, 17+) at House of Blues.

Utada, Tuesday, Feb. 2 (\$23-\$26, 17+) at House of Blues.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Hey Champ, French Horn Rebellion, Thursday, Dec. 17 (\$12, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Inward Eye, Neon Trees, Tuesday, Dec. 15 (\$8-\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin, Thursday, Jan. 28 (\$10-\$12, all ages) at Schubas.

"Tomorrow Never Knows 2010" featuring Voxtro, Bowerbirds, Clues, others, Wednesday, Jan. 13, Thursday, Jan. 14, Friday, Jan. 15, Saturday, Jan. 16, Sunday, Jan. 17

(\$15, \$75 for five-day pass, 18+) at Lincoln Hall and Schubas.

Chris Trapper, Friday, Jan. 8 (\$12, 21+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Andrew Bird, Monday, Dec. 14 (\$35-\$40, all ages) at Fourth Presbyterian Church.

The Black Keys, Kurt Vile and the Violators, Friday, Jan. 1 (\$27, 18+) at Riviera Theatre.

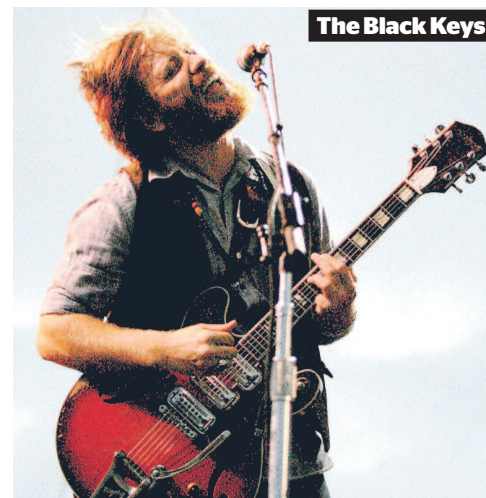
Flogging Molly, Saturday, March 13 (\$29.50-\$35, all ages) at Aragon.

Parachute, Safety Suit, Friday, Jan. 15 (\$15, all ages) at Subterranean.

Robin Thicke, Ryan Leslie, Friday, Dec. 18 (\$38.50, 18+) at Riviera Theatre.

ON SALE NOON SATURDAY

Kill Hannah, Hey



The Black Keys

Champ, 1997, Saturday, Dec. 19 (\$20-\$50, all ages) at Metro.

Lucky Boys Confusion, The Fold, The Action Blast, The Attraction, Saturday, Dec. 26 (\$18.50-\$20, all ages) at Metro.

Miike Snow, Monday, April 5 (\$17-\$19, 18+) at Metro.

St. Vincent, Wildbirds and Peacedrums

Thursday, Feb. 18 (\$16-\$18, 18+) at Metro.

ON SALE 10 A.M. MONDAY

Bon Jovi, Friday, July 30 (\$36.50-\$126.50, all ages) at Soldier Field.

ON SALE NOW

Elizabeth and the Catapult, The Right Now, Wednesday, Dec. 9 (\$8-\$10, all ages) at Space.

« page 24

DORIAN'S DECAY, ELI, VICTORIAN HALLS, ENJOY THE MASSACRE, ROOKS, 6 p.m. \$11. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

THE FAB FAUX, 8 p.m. \$60. Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-472-0449.

FREE MORAL AGENTS, ZECHS MARQUISE, 4:30 p.m. \$12. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

FREEZEPOP, TERRIBLE SPACESHIP, 11 p.m. \$12. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

GREAT CRUSADES, ALMA SUB ROSA, KATIE TODD, 9 p.m. \$10. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

HEIRUSPECS, RUBBLEBUCKET ORCHESTRA, TREOLOGIC, 9 p.m. \$10-\$12. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

INFECTED MUSHROOM, 11 p.m. \$26. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

MEAT PUPPETS, DEXATEENS, DYNASTY ELECTRIC, 10 p.m. \$16-\$18. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

MUCCA PAZZA, BIRD NAMES, KILLER WHALES, 10 p.m. \$12. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

PASSAFIRE, THE EMBRACEABLES, 7:30 p.m. \$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

SHRINEBUILDER, RWAKE (EARLY SHOW), YAKUZA (LATE SHOW), 8 and 11 p.m. \$15. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

ZOE, MONTENEGRO, 8 p.m. \$15. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-276-1235.

SUNDAY

BENJY DAVIS PROJECT, ANDREW HOOVER, PEASANT, 8 p.m. \$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

HANK III AND ASSJACK, 9 p.m. \$20. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

HEAVY TRASH, 8 p.m. \$15. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

JAY BENNETT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: EDWARD BURCH, THE VIPER AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA, BRAD ELVIS AND CHLOE ORWELL, OTHERS, 8 p.m. \$8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

REIGNING SOUND, RONNIE MOON AND THE STYLE TYCOONS, 8 p.m. \$12. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

SAY IT WITH A SMILE, BURNING AT BOTH ENDS, 8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

THE WABASH CANNONBALLS, VELCRO LEWIS GROUP, Noon. \$5. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

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Movie renegade

Philip Seymour Hoffman plays an American DJ in 'Pirate Radio.'
FOCUS FEATURES

Oscar winner Philip Seymour Hoffman rocks the boat in 'Pirate Radio'

By Miki Turner
FOR REDEYE

Actor Nick Frost told a group of reporters in London recently that on Philip Seymour Hoffman's first day of work on "Pirate Radio," a hush fell over the set.

"We were all sitting around cutting up," said Frost, who plays a morally challenged DJ in the new Richard Curtis comedy, which opens Friday. "It was like everything and everyone stopped. 'He's here! He's here!' We just stood frozen watching this Oscar winner walk in with his leather-bound script binder that had his name embossed in gold."

When the incident was mentioned to Hoffman during an exclusive interview from New York via telephone, the actor sounded slightly amused.

"I didn't sense that," Hoffman told RedEye. "... I didn't know he was feeling that, but it's nice that he said that! I felt much more intimi-

dated by being there with them."

It's no wonder. Being among a bunch of bawdy Brits on a tanker in the middle of the North Sea might scare any American—Oscar winner or not. But Hoffman, who plays a renegade American DJ known as "The Count," holds his own in the quirky comedy.

"Pirate Radio" is set in the mid-1960s when the British government deemed rock 'n' roll the leading cause of moral decay and tried to limit its reach on radio. In an effort to give listeners what they wanted, a motley crew of jocks spun their vinyl on a tanker just outside of Britain's territorial boundaries.

To help tell his story, Curtis assembled a yummy cast that includes Bill Nighy, Kenneth Branagh, Tom Sturridge, January Jones, Tallulah Riley, Emma Thompson and Rhys Ifans as a legendary jock competing with The Count for listeners and acclaim.

Hoffman, a New York native who was born

in 1967, was unaware this form of censorship was ever active in Britain, but he does recall listening to rock music as a kid.

"I was kind of brought up listening to music over the radio in the car," he said. "You'd hear all that stuff. I wasn't that kind of guy who would listen to a song and then have to go find out who wrote it. I didn't understand that side of it, wasn't obsessed with that. But everyone I grew up with was."

Conversely, The Count is a dude who lived for the music of the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Grateful Dead and the artists of Motown. In fact, he brings new meaning to the term "going down with the ship."

"I liked playing him because he was really passionate about something and mad about something at the same time," Hoffman said. "The way he deals with that is to have a really good time. I just thought, how interesting. I thought, let's rock 'n' roll with it."

MIKI TURNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

'Pirate Radio' (R)

On a boat in the North Sea in 1966, a bunch of British radio DJs (and one American, played by Philip Seymour Hoffman) play rock music to the delight of millions of listeners—and the annoyance of government types like cartoonishly grumpy minister Dormandy (Kenneth Branagh), who works to get this immoral music off the air. In the center of it all is 18-year-old Carl (Tom Sturridge), who is a virgin, isn't a DJ and may be on the boat to find his real father. What "Pirate Radio" needs is a shot of rock 'n' roll passion, not just some people who love music, some who don't and many shots of listeners, well, listening. Writer-director Richard Curtis delivers a totally dull saga of the man trying to spoil the fun and one sporadically amusing take on guys living without rules. The result: good music, too many meaningless characters and too much strained comic relief.

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Frost takes musical cruise for 'Pirate Radio'

By Miki Turner
FOR REDEYE

LONDON Big guys sometimes get big parts in cool movies.

That was the case for British sitcom star Nick Frost, who plays an oversexed and overweight DJ in "Pirate Radio." Frost, perhaps best known to American audiences for his role in "Shaun of the Dead," offered RedEye his take on director Richard Curtis, 1960s boy bands and his nude scene during an interview at the Mayfair Hotel.

What's the coolest part about being in a Richard Curtis film?

I didn't even realize he knew I was alive until he phoned me personally and said, "I've written you a big part in the film." I just wanted him to like me. He's like an amazing headmaster that you just want to impress. He's like the most upbeat, positive person I've ever met.

He's also a walking, talking encyclopedia on rock music. Did some of that rub off on you?

Yes he is, as well as Bill [Nighy]. They're like proper old rockers, and I think I upset them



Nick Frost gets it on with Gemma Arterton in 'Pirate Radio.'
FOCUS FEATURES

both slightly in the first week when I said to Richard, "I think I should probably tell you that I've never listened to a Rolling Stones

record." ... He immediately told Bill, and the two of them just kind of rowed on me for five or 10 minutes and made me go out and

buy tons of Rolling Stones records. I'm very pleased at that.

What groups or acts did you like from that era?
I was a big fan of [Jimi] Hendrix, always a fan since I was like 10 or 11. But that was kind of it for me. That was my '60s touchstone. I like house music and stuff like that. For me, the Stones were never really relevant.

How about The Beatles?

No, not really. ... But I spent six weeks listening to them in my iPod, and I get it now.

How did you like being the stud in this?

Well, it's my natural state of being!

In one of your biggest scenes in the movie, you appear nude. How'd that go?

I was so terribly sorry for you all! I think it was quite brave of Richard to have a [280-pound] man making out with a Bond girl. Not many people write sex scenes for a big man. I don't think Gemma [Arterton] had seen a man like me before. Daniel Craig is one thing, but I'm a different kettle of fish.

MIKI TURNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY		Handicapped Access ♦ Digital Sound Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes Hearing - Impaired		G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13 R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted	
600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC) 600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily & <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMC Select - The best specialty films ■ 2012 (PG-13) 12:00,2:30,3:30,6:00,7:00,9:30,10:30 ■ The Box (PG-13) 2:15,5:00,7:50,10:50 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 1:40,4:10,6:45,9:15 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:40 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 1:50,4:45,7:30,10:20 ■ Where the Wild (PG) 2:00,4:30 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 1:30,3:45,6:10,8:20,10:45 ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 7:15,10:00 	DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE) 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago (773) 784-0893 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Twilight: Moon (PG-13) ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 3:40,6:45,9:50 ■ Men Who Stare (R) 4:15,6:15,8:15,10:15 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 5:00,7:00,9:00 ■ The Box (PG-13) 5:10,7:40,10:00 	MUSIC BOX 3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ House of Devil (R) 5:45,7:45,9:45,12:00 ■ Antichrist (NR) 5:00,7:20,9:40 ■ Ong Bak 2 (R) 12:00 Midnight 	CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) 7000 Carpenter Rd., Skokie (800) 326-3264 #2309 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 9:30,11:30,12:10,1:00,3:00,3:30,4:30,6:30,7:00,8:00,10:00,10:30,11:40 ■ Boondock II (R) ★ 9:45,12:20,3:20,6:15,9:00,11:50 ■ Pirate Radio (R) ★ 10:30,1:30,4:20,7:20,10:10,1:00 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 9:40,11:10,12:15,1:40,2:40,4:10,5:10,6:40,7:40,9:10,10:05,11:30,12:35 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) ★ 11:40,2:10,4:40,7:10,9:40,12:01 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) ★ 10:00,12:20,2:50,5:30,8:10,10:35 ■ Men Who Stare (R) ★ 11:50,2:30,5:20,7:50,10:20,12:45 ■ Precious: Novel (R) ★ 9:50,11:20,12:40,2:00,3:50,4:50,6:50,7:30,9:30,10:15,12:10,12:55 ■ The Box (PG-13) ★ 10:10,12:50,3:40,6:20,9:20,12:15 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 10:40,1:20,4:00,6:45,9:45,12:30 ■ A Serious Man (R) 10:50,1:50,4:45,7:15,9:50,12:20 ■ Astro Boy (PG) 11:15,2:15 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 11:00,1:10,3:45,6:10,8:20,10:40,12:50 ■ Law Abiding (R) 11:45,2:20,5:15,8:15,10:45 ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 5:00,7:45,10:25 	CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES) 4779 W. Cermak (800) 326-3264 #1644 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 12:10,3:00,3:30,6:30,7:00,10:00,10:30 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) ★ 12:15,12:45,2:40,3:10,5:10,6:10,7:45,8:40,10:10 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) ★ 1:30,4:20,6:50,9:20 ■ Men Who Stare (R) ★ 12:20,2:50,5:20,8:00,10:40 ■ Precious: Novel (R) ★ 1:50,2:20,4:30,5:00,7:10,7:40,9:50,10:20 ■ The Box (PG-13) ★ 12:40,3:40,6:45,9:30 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 2:00,4:45,7:30,10:15 ■ Astro Boy (PG) 12:50,3:50 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 2:10,4:50,7:15,9:40 ■ Law Abiding (R) 1:15,4:00,7:20,9:55 ■ The Stepfather (PG-13) 6:20,9:00 	
LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK) 2828 North Clark St., Chicago (773) 509-4949 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Skin (PG-13) 1:40,4:30,7:25,10:10 ■ Gentlemen Brc (PG-13) 2:10,5:00,7:40,10:00 ■ Capitalism-Lv (R) 2:00,4:55,8:30 ■ Coco Before (PG-13) 1:30,4:10,7:10,9:50 ■ An Education (PG-13) 1:45,4:20,7:00,9:45 ■ A Serious Man (R) 2:00,4:45,7:30,10:05 ■ New York (R) 1:50,4:25,7:20,9:55 	FORD CITY 14 (AMC) S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMC Select - The best specialty films ■ AMC Select Precious: Novel (R) 10:45,11:45,12:45,1:45,2:45,3:45,4:40,5:45,6:45,7:45,8:45,9:45,10:45,11:45 ■ 2012 (PG-13) 10:00,12:10,1:20,3:30,4:45,7:00,8:15,10:30,11:30 ■ AMC Select Ten9eight (NR) 10:15,12:30,2:40,4:50,7:05,9:10,11:20 ■ The Box (PG-13) 11:00,1:40,4:20,7:10,10:00 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 10:10,12:25,2:50,5:10,7:30,9:50 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) 10:30,12:50,3:20,5:40,8:00,10:20 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 11:20,2:10,4:55,7:25,10:10 ■ Cirque Du Freak (PG-13) 7:00 P.M. ■ Astro Boy (PG) 10:05,12:20,2:35,4:50 ■ Saw VI (R) 9:30,11:45 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 11:55,2:15,4:35,6:50,9:00,11:10 ■ The Stepfather (PG-13) 11:50,2:30,5:15,7:40,10:15 ■ Law Abiding (R) 11:15,1:45,4:15,6:40,9:15,11:40 	RIVER EAST 21 (AMC) 322 E. Illinois Street 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMC Select - The best specialty films ■ AMC Select Precious: Novel (R) 10:00,11:00,12:50,1:50,3:50,4:50,6:50,7:50,9:50,10:50 ■ 2012 (PG-13) 10:45,11:45,12:45,2:30,3:30,4:30,6:15,7:15,8:15,10:00,11:00,12:00 ■ AMC Select Pirate Radio (R) 11:15,2:10,5:10,8:10,11:10 ■ AMC Select Boondock II (R) 10:05,1:10,4:20,7:30,10:40 ■ AMC Select Ten9eight (NR) 11:00,1:30,4:00,6:30,9:00,11:30 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 10:30,11:30,1:15,2:15,3:55,4:55,6:40,7:40,9:20,10:20,11:50 ■ The Box (PG-13) 10:25,1:20,4:15,7:05,10:10 ■ Men Who Stare (R) 10:20,11:20,1:00,2:00,3:40,4:40,6:20,7:20,9:05,10:05,11:40 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) 12:30,3:15,5:55,8:40,11:20 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) 11:25,1:55,4:35,7:25,10:15 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 11:05,1:45,4:45,7:45,10:45 ■ AMC Select Amelia (PG) 10:10,12:55,3:45,6:35,9:30 ■ Where the Wild (PG) 11:35,2:05,4:40 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 10:00,12:15,2:50,5:30,8:00,10:30 ■ Law Abiding (R) 10:15,1:05,4:05,7:00,10:10 ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 7:10,9:55 ■ AMC Select Coco Before (PG-13) 11:10,2:05,5:05,8:05,11:05 	WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES) 1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago (800) 326-3264 #1641 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 11:50,3:15,7:00,10:30 ■ Pirate Radio (R) ★ 10:10,1:30,4:30,7:30,10:20 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 1:10,1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) ★ 10:50,1:20,4:20,7:20,10:10 ■ Men Who Stare (R) ★ 10:30,11:30,1:02,2:02,4:15,5:15,7:15,8:00,9:45,10:40 ■ The Box (PG-13) ★ 10:15,1:00,4:00,6:50,10:00 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 11:00,2:00,5:00,7:40,10:15 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 10:20,12:50,3:30,6:15,8:30,10:45 ■ Where the Wild (PG) 10:40,1:50,4:40,7:10,9:50 ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 10:00,12:40,3:50,6:30,9:30 		
CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES) 2600 N. Western Ave. (800) 326-3264 #1642 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 12:10,1:00,3:30,4:30,7:00,8:00,10:30 ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:00,2:30,6:30,10:00 ■ Boondock II (R) ★ 10:50,2:00,5:00,7:50,10:40 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 11:10,11:40,1:40,2:10,4:10,4:40,6:45,7:15,9:10,9:40 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) ★ 9:45,12:15,2:45,5:15,7:40,10:10 ■ Precious: Novel (R) ★ 9:50,10:30,12:30,1:20,3:20,4:20,6:20,7:20,9:20,10:20 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 9:40,12:20,3:15,6:10,7:10,9:00,9:50 ■ Astro Boy (PG) 10:40,1:30,4:00 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 10:00,12:45,3:10,5:30,8:10,10:45 ■ Law Abiding (R) 10:15,1:10,3:45,6:40,9:30 ■ Where the Wild (PG) 11:30 A.M. ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1:50,4:50,7:30,10:15 	GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER 164 State Street 312-846-2800 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ All Heaven (NR) 6:00 P.M. ■ For the Lo (NR) 6:00,7:45 ■ God's (NR) 8:00 P.M. 	LOGAN THEATRE 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Astro Boy (PG) 2:05,4:15,6:20,8:30 ■ Couples Retreat (PG-13) 2:10,4:20,6:30,8:40 ■ Zombieland (R) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10 ■ Cloudy-Mtballs (PG) 2:00,4:05,6:10,8:20 	SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES) E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave. (800) 326-3264 #1646 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 12:10,12:40,3:00,3:30,4:15,6:30,7:00,8:00,10:00,10:30 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) ★ 12:15,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) ★ 1:30,4:20,6:50,9:20 ■ Precious: Novel (R) ★ 1:50,2:20,4:30,5:00,7:10,7:45,9:50,10:20 ■ The Box (PG-13) ★ 12:30,3:40,6:45,9:30 ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 2:00,4:45,7:30,10:15 ■ Astro Boy (PG) 12:50,3:50 ■ Paranormal Act (R) 2:10,4:50,7:15,9:40 ■ Saw VI (R) 12:45,3:10,6:10,8:40 ■ Law Abiding (R) 1:15,4:00,7:20,9:55 ■ The Stepfather (PG-13) 6:20,9:00 	CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY) 1715 MAPLE AVE. (847) 492-0123 & <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2012 (PG-13) ★ 11:05,12:10,2:30,3:40,4:50,6:05,7:10,8:20,9:30,10:40 ■ Pirate Radio (R) ★ 11:10,2:00,4:50,7:35,10:25 ■ Boondock II (R) ★ 11:15,2:05,4:55,7:45,10:35 ■ Christmas Carol (PG) ★ 11:25,1:00,1:45,3:30,4:15,6:00,6:50,8:30,10:45 ■ C'mas Carol 3D (PG) ★ 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:50,10:20 ■ A Serious Man (R) 11:35,2:10,4:40,7:20,10:00 ■ An Education (PG-13) 11:40,2:10,4:35,7:05,9:35 ■ Coco Before (PG-13) 9:20 P.M. ■ Michael Jackson (PG) 11:15,1:50,4:25,7:15,9:55 ■ Precious: Novel (R) ★ 11:00,12:20,1:40,3:00,4:20,5:40,7:00,8:15,9:40,11:00 ■ The Box (PG-13) ★ 11:10,1:55,4:35,7:30,10:15 ■ The Fourth Kind (PG-13) ★ 12:05,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10 ■ Men Who Stare (R) ★ 12:00,1:15,2:35,3:45,5:00,6:10,7:25,8:35,9:45,10:55 ■ Where the Wild (PG) 11:50,2:20,4:45,7:20,9:50 	

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'TEN9EIGHT: SHOOT FOR THE MOON'
(Not rated)



Writer-director Mary Mazzio reminds us that all over the country, high-school dropout rates are distressingly high—particularly among minorities. This film looks on the bright side, though, following young, mostly non-white entrepreneurs from cities including Chicago, New York and Boston as the kids and their business ideas compete nationally for a \$10,000 prize.

The buzz: It's certainly inspiring to see teens from across the U.S. defying statistics and demonstrating ambition for the future. (Half the film is spent establishing the main competitors, including Miami's Jessica Cervantes, selling cake on a stick called Popsycakes, and Chicago's Rodney Walker, who also narrates this film, providing custom wedding videos.) The task of "Ten9Eight" will be to act as more than just a round of applause for the overachievers and consider how and why some kids succeed and others don't.

The verdict: We get an overview of past hardships and humble upbringings and then watch kids excel in the competition, which is a nice story with no rough edges and little of the proper context. This would be fine to watch in high school business class, but that's all. **MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.**



'Ten9Eight: Shoot for the Moon' follows Chicago's Rodney Walker.

50 EGGS FILMS

ALSO OUT

!!! 'The House of the Devil' (R)

Ooh, spooky title. Too bad this horror flick, a deliberate and sometimes very effective nod to the '80s, takes so long to get going and winds up feeling so underwritten. There's a lot of promise here, though, with its tale of a baby-sitting gig gone horribly, horribly awry packed with patiently escalating fear and pitch-black paranoia. The take-away: Writer/director Ti West and star Jocelin Donahue have potential, and satanic cult leaders make awful employers.

!!! '2012' (PG-13)

Aside from a couple solid action sequences, this bloated epic is exhausting instead of exciting and sentimental but not sad. The technology's new and improved, but nothing else is.

'For the Love of Movies: The Story of American Film Criticism'

!!! (Not rated)

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Alice Krige (left) and Sophie Okonedo in 'Skin'

■■■■■ **'Skin'** (PG-13)

Who's in it: Sam Neill, Alice Krige, Ella Ramangwane, Sophie Okonedo
What it's about: An improbable true story, "Skin" dramatizes the life of Sandra Laing, a black girl born to white Afrikaner parents in apartheid-era South Africa.

Worth watching?
 "'Skin' is heartfelt but clumsy. It feels hurried, looks cheap and works overtime to simplify a complex, flawed character into a noble, tragic heroine."

COLIN COVERT, MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

■■■■■ **'The Boondock Saints: All Saints Day'** (R)

Who's in it: Judd Nelson, Sean Patrick Flanery, Peter Fonda, Norman Reedus
What it's about: Two brothers (Flanery, Reedus) hunt for the gangsters who killed a priest.

Worth watching?
 "[The film] gives so much a bad name: Irish pride, clumsy sequel titles ... ethnic slurs, homophobic un-wisecracks, Judd Nelson's inability to say "when" as an over-actor ..."

MICHAEL PHILLIPS, TRIBUNE

What 'Kind' is this?

MCT

The title of the thriller "The Fourth Kind" refers to abduction by aliens. Those who believe aliens have visited Earth break down extraterrestrial contact into categories.

The first kind is the sighting of a UFO; the second is a sighting plus observable physical effects (radiation exposure, malfunctioning machines, etc.); the third involves seeing alien creatures outside the spacecraft. If you believe survivor testimony, the fourth kind means the sort of close contact comparable to a colonoscopy.

But what happens during other types of contact? Some speculation:

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The Eleventh Kind: The aliens hire you as a temp, then lay you off right before Christmas.

The Thirteenth Kind: Your diary is read by aliens, who laugh at the mawkish prose style and constant self pity you display in committing your most personal thoughts to paper.

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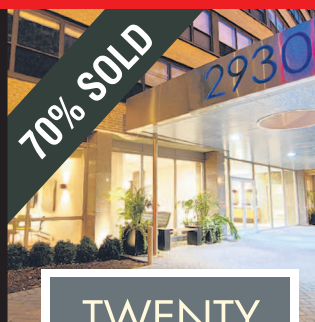
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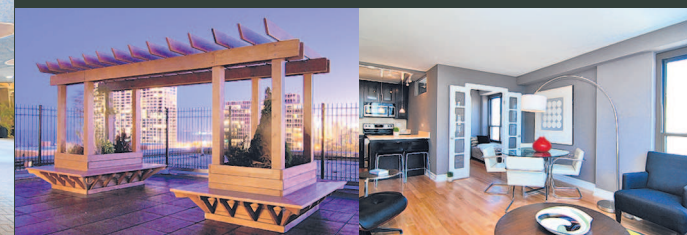
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'2012'
COLUMBIA PICTURES

Carnage captivates

St. Petersburg Times

Roland Emmerich's disaster flick "2012" opens Friday and promises to deliver an orgy of destruction, from Vatican City crumbling to a battleship washing over the White House like a surfboard. Impressive stuff, but only time will tell which "2012" catastrophe will become ingrained in pop consciousness.

A movie can contain the classic elements of disaster flicks—all-star cast, unstoppable forces of nature or evil—but without that single image of shock and awe that nobody forgets, it's just another "Armageddon." Remember these?

Falling up

The granddaddy of all disaster flicks is 1972's "The Poseidon Adventure," which capsized an ocean liner, forcing survivors to climb upward (which was actually down) to safety. One dude memorably didn't make it, clinging to a ballroom table, then plummeting down to the stained glass skylight that minutes before was above his head.

'Titanic' tumble

James Cameron devised the most spectacular sea catastrophe in movie history. The real star while the ship sinks isn't Leo or Kate, but the anonymous passenger losing his grip on a guard rail, tumbling hundreds of feet toward icy water. Don't worry. He clips a propeller with sick-

ening force on the way down, so he doesn't drown or die of hypothermia.

Vote or die

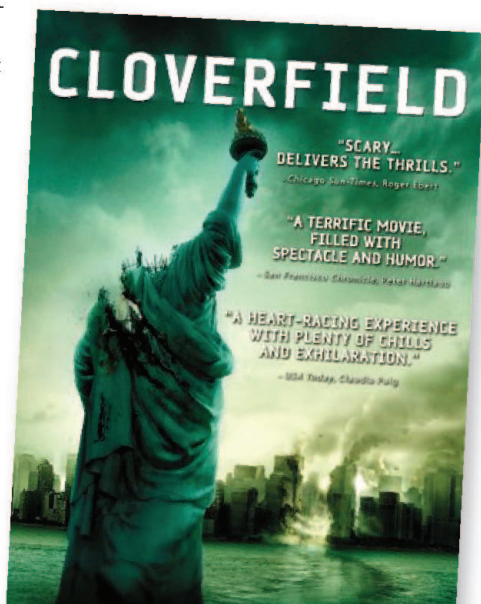
Bill Clinton was president in 1996 when an alien death ray obliterated the White House in "Independence Day" and audiences cheered. Some pundits interpreted that reaction as a public referendum on Clinton's administration. But seeing the prez's crib blown to bits is a memorable crowd-pleaser, no matter who is in the Oval Office.

Milk shake, anyone?

Keeping a sense of humor helps during catastrophe. Jan de Bont's "Twister" contained possibly the silliest image ever in a disaster flick: a mooing Holstein cow swept by a tornado in front of the heroes' truck not once but twice. Ol' Bessie was more convincing in her role than Helen Hunt playing a scientist.

Show the lady some respect

National monuments are always fair game in disaster flicks. None have been battered and broken as often as the Statue of Liberty, from drowning by tidal wave ("Deep Impact") and global warming ("The Day After Tomorrow") and decapitation by the "Cloverfield" monster. Give her your poor, huddled masses yearning to breathe free and a break.



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ALBUM

'Oh Blue Christmas'

A Fine Frenzy; \$22.49 on amazon.com

Full disclosure: I've already loaded my iPod with my Christmas playlist and strung up the holiday decorations outside my house, so I might be a little biased. I like my Xmas tunes a little more traditional and a little less indie, but this six-song EP mixes the two. Alison Sudol's voice is smooth, velvety and well-suited for holiday music, but it's quirky enough to stay out of Peggy Lee territory. The highlight might be the band's cover of "Christmas Time is Here," the classic from "A Charlie Brown Christmas." **BRIAN MOORE, REDEYE**



BOOK

'Thank God I'm Natural: The Ultimate Guide to Caring for and Maintaining Natural Hair'

\$14.36 on amazon.com

Whether you wear natural styles or just want to know more about the topic, Chris-Tia Donaldson's "Thank God I'm Natural" is a bookshelf blessing. The beautifully illustrated guide offers great instructions and options for black women who want out of chemical treatment, while providing historical context to black women's relationship with their crowning glory. Also adding to the appeal: handy definitions, links to Web sites and homemade hair-care recipes. **KYRA KYLES, REDEYE**



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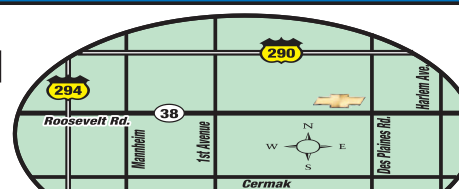
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Bower and McKellen
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'The Prisoner'

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From 'Prisoner' to 'New Moon'

In one week, Jamie Campbell Bower will be known for one role: Caius, a leader of the Volturi vampires in "New Moon."

But this weekend, fans can see the British actor, who starred opposite Johnny Depp in "Sweeney Todd," in AMC's three-part, six-hour "re-imagining" of the iconic 1967 series "The Prisoner."

The 21-year-

old plays No. 11-12, the son of No. 2 (Ian McKellen), the man in charge of a strange place called The Village, where Michael (Jim Caviezel) wakes to find himself. He doesn't know how he got there or why everyone is calling him No. 6. And he's determined to undermine the rule of No. 2, who seems to know what everyone is doing.

It's a trippy, bizarre look at post-9/11 society and how our desire to live in a safe environment means we sacrifice personal freedoms—such as privacy. Bower, whose 11-12 goes on his own journey in the mini-series, saw another theme. We talked about it recently before he set off for his "New Moon" promotional tour.

What a mind-[bleep] "The Prisoner" is.

Yeah, I know, right? It's great. I've been doing interviews like all of yesterday. They were all radio interviews and I did want to say mind-[bleep], but I wasn't allowed to because some of them were live. It's a mind-screw? That's what I went with anyway.

Who is 11-12 and what's he all about?

Throughout the story he's searching for that missing element in his life. And when he

finds what it is, there are severe repercussions for both him and the entire village itself. ... Obviously he's a teenager and dealing with all the usual things a teenager has to deal with. But the thing is his dad is 2, which sucks, because he can't do anything without his dad knowing. I think, for him, that is quite difficult and he's a little bit angry about that.

The piece has several themes, but what grabbed you the most?

For my character, the idea of family is the strongest theme throughout the series: what family stands for and to what extent will you protect yourself against your family? And to what extent do you let your family govern your life and to what extent do you trust your family?

What was it like working with Ian McKellen?

Amazing. He's obviously one of the finest actors ever. To be able to play his son was an absolute blessing. And to be within 3 feet of him for four-and-a-half months was an absolute blessing, but I wasn't allowed closer than 3 feet.

Tell me about "New Moon." You play Caius, but we won't see much of you, I hear.

The Volturi are introduced [here] and come back in the fourth book. I'll get more then, I hope. I wasn't disappointed [about that] with "New Moon." I knew exactly what I was supposed to do when I got the script. I'm just happy to be involved.

You're embarking on a big "Twilight" tour. Do you like people screaming at you all the time?

It's a necessary—I wouldn't say evil—but it's necessary to promote the film.

And I notice you didn't say you do like it.

[Laughs.] That's because I'm good at side-stepping.

» Read more TV celebrity interviews at redyechicago.com/showpatrol.

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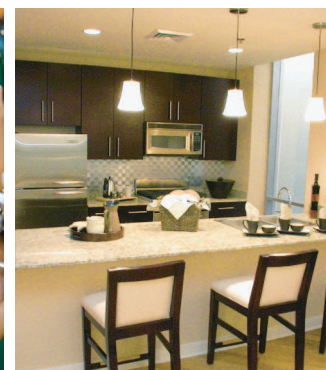
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THE SET-UP: SEVERAL CELEBRITY COUPLES HAVE ANNOUNCED BREAK-UPS IN RECENT WEEKS.

How do you know when it's time to break up?



Pinpoint the problems

If you're a celebrity, your publicist probably tells you when to break up. For those of us who aren't being snapped by the paparazzi, there are a few warning signs that the end is near—or should be.

» **You're drifting apart.** The two of you used to talk five times a day and

see each other every night. Now, thank God for Caller ID, because you hardly recognize his voice.

» **Your fights are frequent, ridiculous and dirty.** Does he realize how annoying his breathing patterns are? Well, you're going to tell him, and suggest that it's probably a result of poor home training.

» **No nookie.** You've had a month-long headache.

» **You have nothing nice to say.** Your friends are tired of your endless complaints, and they wonder why you're still together.

» **Outside attractions.** You frequently notice other men.

Where did all of these cute boys come from all of a sudden? If only you were single. **THE GINA SPOT COLUMNIST GINA B IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**



Not a gentleman's club

Cheating (or a strong desire to stray) is high up on the list of reasons to break up. Let's take actor Josh Duhamel

and his alleged dalliance with a stripper. Personally, I think it's just dandy if someone in a committed relationship takes a fistful of dollars to an exotic-dance establishment for a night of giggles and jiggles.

However, if he was in fact doing so with the intention of eventual betraying his Fergalicious wife, then Dumbass Duhamel was out of line. If you can't stop thinking of other ladies' lady parts—unless the both of you have agreed on maintaining an open relationship—you should have the guts to call it quits. **UPTOWN GRRRL JENNI SPINNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**



You know when you know

In my unsolicited (hey wait, it was solicited) opinion, you know when it's time to go. You may not want to accept it, but it's obvious when your relationship—like Tara Reid's career—is

over. Here are three official signs of relationship apocalypse:

» The sound of the other person's voice makes you cringe.

» You cannot imagine yourself with the person for another year, let alone the rest of your life. (Hanging with badly matched married couples is a known trigger for this stay-or-go gut feeling.)

» During heated or even lukewarm arguments, your mind is saying "Why bother? Let's just end this." Then one day, your mouth follows suit.

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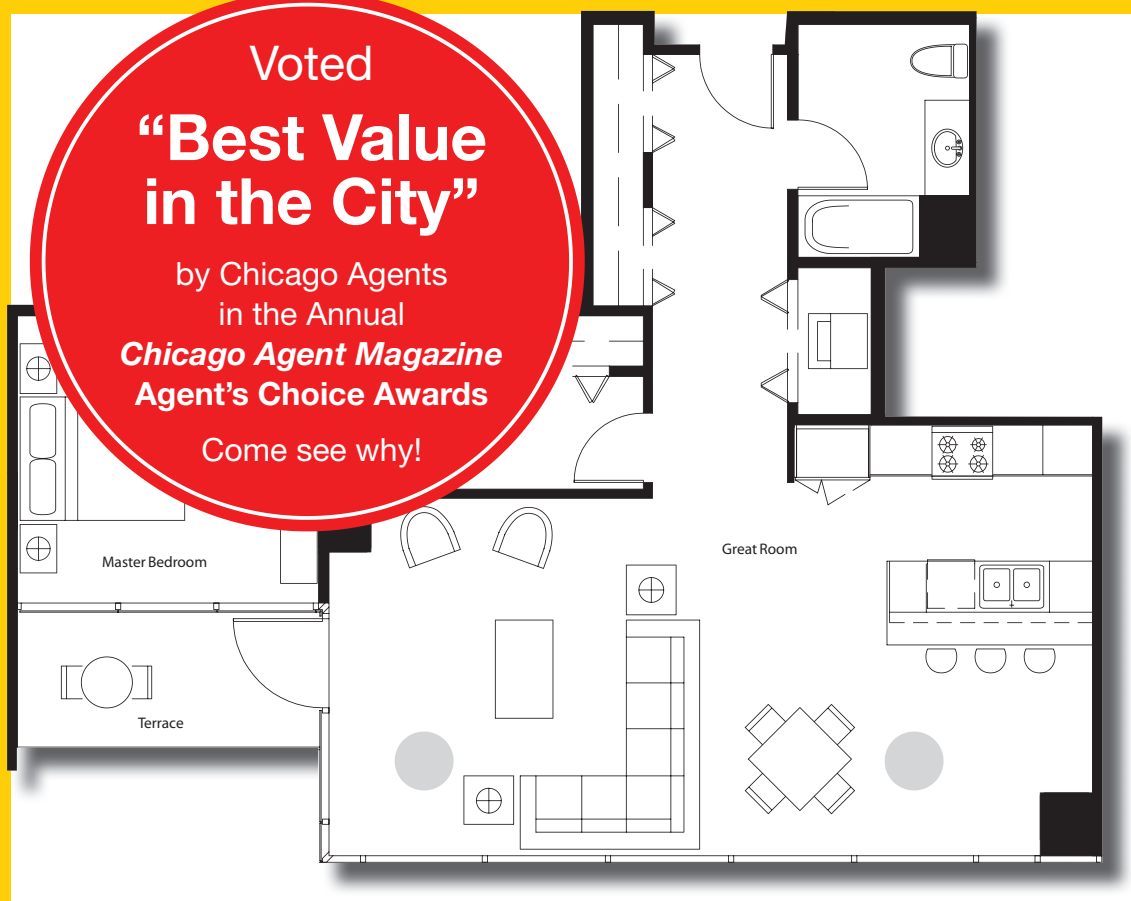
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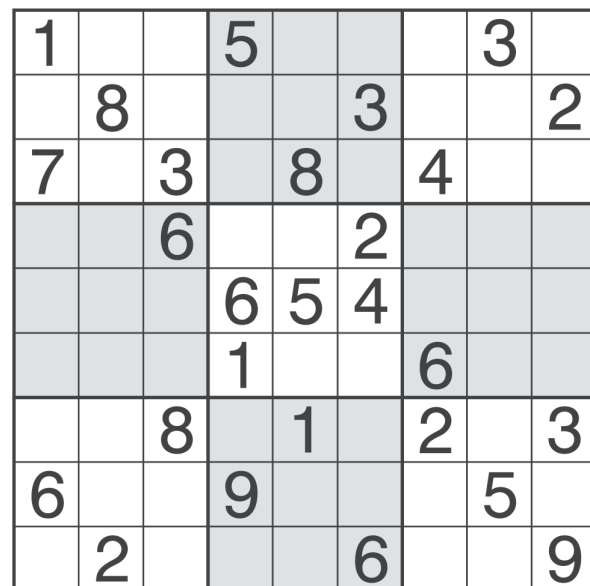


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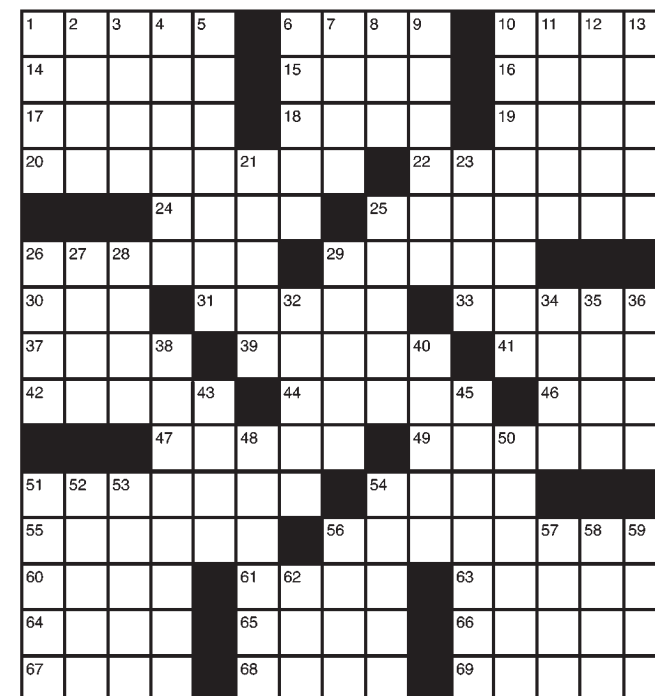
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ACROSS

- 1 Employee's rest
- 6 Thick slice
- 10 Celebrity
- 14 up; animate
- 15 Sworn statement
- 16 Saga
- 17 Blazing
- 18 In ... of; as a substitute for
- 19 Nepal's continent
- 20 Held as true
- 22 Slightly colored
- 24 Laila and her dad
- 25 Depresses
- 26 One who plays tenpins
- 29 Sleep ...; snorer's danger
- 30 Exclamation of disgust
- 31 Russian currency
- 33 Zeal
- 37 Downhill glider
- 39 Wiser
- 41 Nincompoop
- 42 Religious doctrine
- 44 West Point student
- 46 In favor of
- 47 Tremble
- 49 Bell tower
- 51 Is important
- 54 Trait carrier
- 55 Making a goof
- 56 Identical
- 60 Opposed to, informally
- 61 Earthenware jar
- 63 De La Hoya
- 64 Inner ...; pool float
- 65 Burn
- 66 Slowly, in music
- 67 Tiny beginning
- 68 Sweet potatoes
- 69 Gown

DOWN

- 1 Spill the beans
- 2 Abounding
- 3 Wicked
- 4 Antenna
- 5 Item attached to the back of a pew
- 6 Shoe bottoms
- 7 to rest; buried
- 8 Feasted



- 9 Small country next to India
- 10 Criterion; norm
- 11 Take a bite
- 12 Unfamiliar
- 13 Peruses
- 21 Cause of the common cold
- 23 Concept
- 25 Drive too fast
- 26 Arrest
- 27 Eye flirtatiously
- 28 At what time?
- 29 Seaweeds
- 32 Supports
- 34 Tip one's hat
- 35 Smell
- 36 Actor Calhoun
- 38 Fated
- 40 Nonconformist
- 43 At that time
- 45 1000 percent
- 48 Fleet of ships
- 50 Smaller of two
- 51 Pork and beef
- 52 Dispute
- 53 Cherokees or Apaches
- 54 First, neutral and reverse
- 56 Close noisily
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Taylor Swift at the CMA Awards.

UNITED STATES ENTERTAINMENT

Swift rise dissed

Kanye West, meet your new BFF, Wynonna Judd.

The country diva showed she has something in common with the infamous interrupter when she said Taylor Swift didn't deserve to win an award, in this case entertainer of the year at the Country Music Association's annual awards show.

"You want my honest comment? It's too much too soon," Judd told USA Today before Wednesday night's show. "Time is God's way of keeping everything from happening at once. It's just too much of a good thing too soon."

Ouch. Judging from Taylor's roller-coaster ride the past two months, we're certain there'll be both highs and lows in her future. Here's a look at her ride so far.



SEPT. 13

Kanye-gate

She becomes the first country artist to win best female video at the MTV Video Music Awards—but West steals her thunder. Kanye later apologizes on his blog.



NOVEMBER 2008 Take that!

Her second album, "Fearless," comes out, featuring the Jonas-based breakup song "Forever and Always." Platinum, baby!

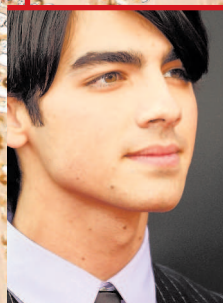
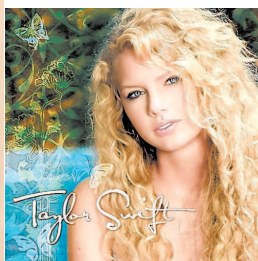


NOV. 11 Snubbed again

Judd (left) says Swift shouldn't win entertainer of the year.

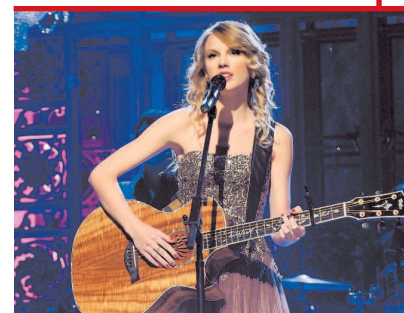
OCTOBER 2006 Debut

At 16, Swift drops her self-titled debut album. It goes platinum, baby!



OCTOBER 2008 Bad breakup

Swift's BF, fellow teen idol Joe Jonas (left), breaks up with her in a 25-second phone conversation, she later says on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show."



NOV. 7 Sweet revenge

As host of "SNL," Swift zings Jonas and West in her "Monologue Song (La La La)."

NOV. 11 Swift sweep

Taylor wins each of the four categories for which she's nominated at the CMA Awards, including entertainer of the year.

NOV. 12 (EARLY A.M.) Cereal-ly cute

"Just wrapped up a cereal party with my mom and dad at the kitchen table," Swift tweets. "What a night."

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\$12,991 or \$200.99/mo.

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\$13,991 or \$217.08/mo.

2007 HONDA ACCORD EXL Stk. # H95283A

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\$15,331 or \$238.64/mo.

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\$15,901 or \$247.81/mo.

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\$15,991 or \$249.26/mo.

2008 HONDA CIVIC, Stk. # PHA4555

\$16,991 or \$265.35/mo.

2005 INFINITI G35 4DR, Stk. # PHF4569A

\$16,991 or \$265.35/mo.

2007 HONDA CIVIC EX, Stk. # PHA4564

\$16,991 or \$265.35/mo.

2007 HONDA ACCORD EX CPE, Stk. # PH4502A

\$17,441 or \$272.99/mo.

2007 HONDA CIVIC EX, Navi, Stk. # PHF4539

\$17,991 or \$281.44/mo.

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\$18,991 or \$297.53/mo.

2007 LEXUS ES350, Navi, Stk. # PHA4595

\$24,111 or \$379.92/mo.

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\$27,221 or \$429.96/mo.

DOMESTIC

2009 CHRYSLER 300

Stk. #PH4578

**\$15,555
or \$237.32/mo**



2009 DODGE CHARGER

3.5, Stk. #PH4608

**\$15,991
or \$249.26/mo.**



2003 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT, Stk. #H93254A

\$6,991 or \$104.44/mo.

2005 DODGE NEON, Stk. #PH4589B

\$6,991 or \$104.44/mo.

2007 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER Stk. #PH4579

\$8,001 or \$120.69/mo.

2006 CHEVY AVEO, Stk. #H103033A

\$8,791 or \$133.40/mo.

2005 CHEVY MALIBU, Stk. #H104071A

\$10,441 or \$159.95/mo.

2007 FORD FOCUS, Stk. #PH4584

\$10,691 or \$163.98/mo.

2008 DODGE CALIBER, Stk. #PH4580

\$11,111 or \$170.74/mo.

2005 FORD 500 LTD, Stk. #H91422B

\$11,991 or \$184.90/mo.

2008 CHEVY IMPALA LT, Stk. #PH4576

\$12,691 or \$196.16/mo.

2008 DODGE CHARGER, Stk. # PH4622

\$12,991 or \$196.90/mo.

2007 PONTIAC VIBE, Stk. #H9294A

\$13,991 or \$217.08/mo.

LUXURY

2009 MERCEDES BENZ C300 SPORT

Stk. #PH4623

**\$28,998
or \$449.23/mo.**



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Fully Loaded! Luxury &
Performance! Stk. # PHF4476

**\$19,877
or \$311.79/mo.**



2005 INFINITI G35 4DR, Stk. #PHF4569A

\$18,991* or \$291.48/mo.^

2005 PORSCHE BOXSTER S, Navi, Stk. #PHF4571A

\$29,441 or \$465.68/mo.

2006 LEXUS LS430, Stk. #PHF4570

\$31,991 or \$506.71/mo.

2009 CADILLAC DTS, Stk. #PH4574

\$32,331 or \$512.19/mo.

2008 INFINITI FX35 Stk. #PHF4614

\$29,998* or \$464.99/mo.^

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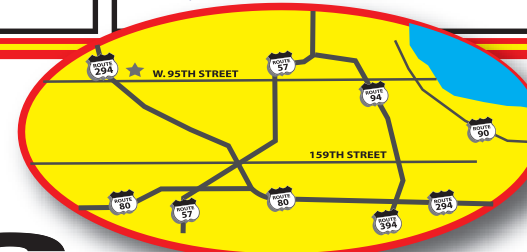
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red hot

'ROULETTE' RISES

In one week, Rihanna's new song "Russian Roulette" rocketed to No. 9 from No. 75 on the Billboard Hot 100 singles chart, **billboard.com** reports—her 12th career top 10 hit. Meanwhile, ex-boyfriend Chris Brown has made an unexpected pairing with rapper Soulja Boy Tell'em on "Bad," a track for Brown's new album, **mtv.com** reports.

“I've learned that being a celebrity is like being a sacrificial lamb. At some point, no matter how high the pedestal that they put you on, they're going to tear you down. And I created a character as an offering for the sacrifice.”

—**Megan Fox**, in an interview published this week in The New York Times



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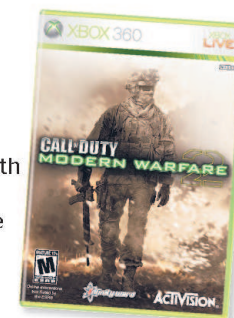
Couple kaput

Actors Lindsay Price and Josh Radnor have broken up, **people.com** reports. Price, the former "Lipstick Jungle" star, met Radnor when she appeared on his show, "How I Met Your Mother."

THE DIGIT

4.7M

That's the number Activision estimates it sold of the video game "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2" in North America and the U.K. on Tuesday, its first day of release, **cnet.com** reports. This shatters the record set by "Grand Theft Auto IV," which moved 3.6 million worldwide last year.



Just kidding, y'all!

Britney Spears (left) has NOT gone to the dark side. The pop star regained control of her Twitter account Thursday (@britneyspears) and assured fans she was the victim of hacker after a prankster sent two grim tweets. "I give myself to Lucifer every day for it to arrive as quickly as possible. Glory to Satan!" one of the tweets read, according to **cnn.com**.



Thursday. "But I just go with it, like, 'Hey, nice to meet you.'"

And you are?

Kid Rock just can't seem to remember Julianne Hough (left). The two-time "Dancing with the Stars" champ met Rock, again, at Wednesday night's Country Music Association Awards.

"I think I've met Kid Rock probably five times, but he still introduces himself every time he sees me," Hough told RedEye on



No 'Chef' love for Robin

After clinging to her spatula for weeks, embattled cheftestant Robin Leventhal (left) was booted from "Top Chef" on Wednesday night—and the other chefs had no problem serving her nasty comments on- and off-camera, Leventhal told **eonline.com**, including this exchange with Mike Isabella:

"We just filmed the reunion show and I was like, 'You didn't really hate me that much, did you?' " Leventhal recounted. "And he was like, 'No, I did.' " Sounds like someone got burned.